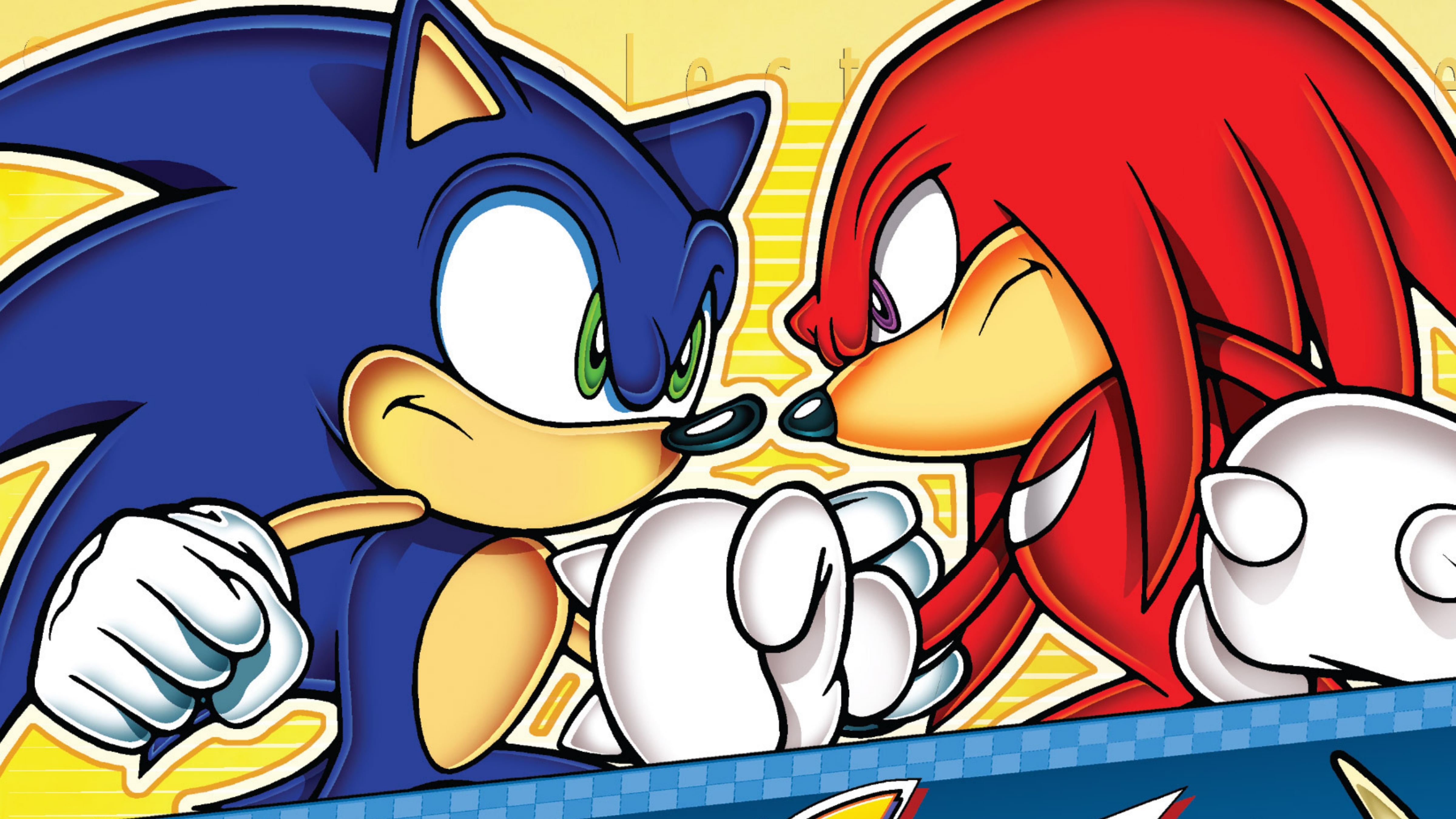
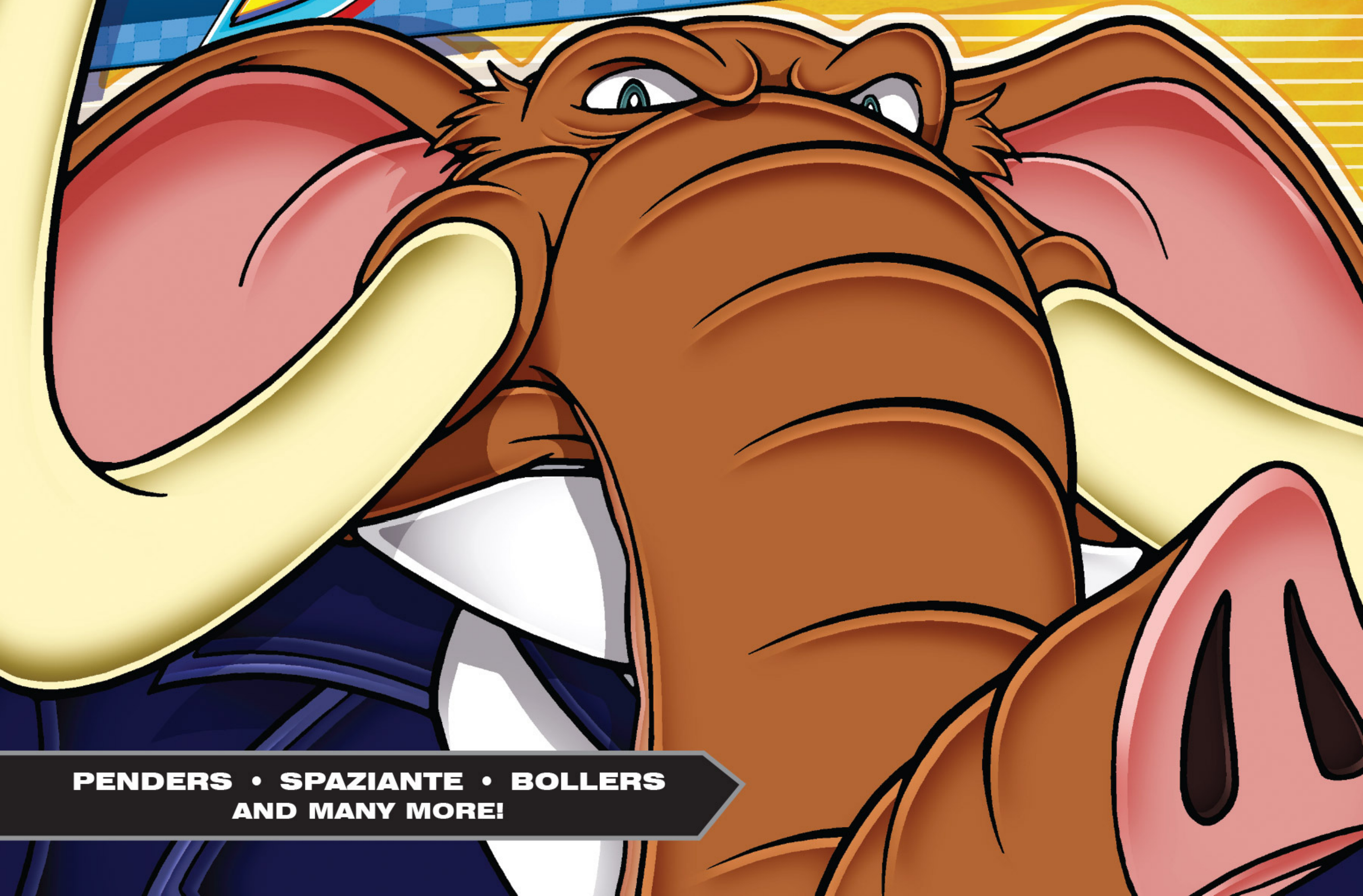




SONIC SELECT

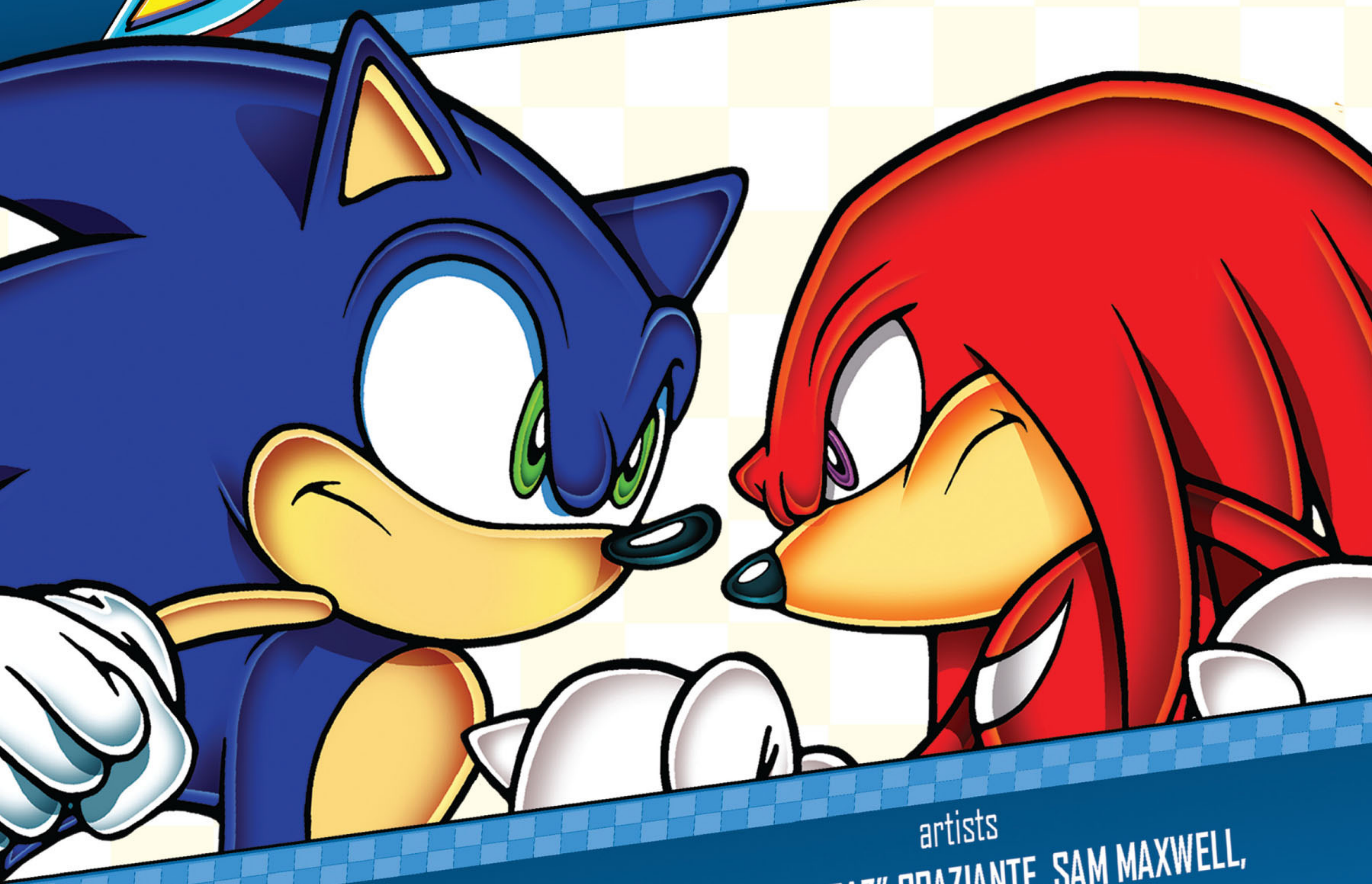
BOOK THREE



PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • BOLLERS
AND MANY MORE!

SONIC SELECT

BOOK THREE



writers

MICHAEL GALLAGHER, KARL BOLLERS,
KEN PENDERS, TOM ROLSTON

cover by

PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE

artists

PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE, SAM MAXWELL,
DAVE MANAK, NELSON ORTEGA, JIM AMASH,
HARVEY MERCADOOCASIO, RICH KOSLOWSKI,
BARRY GROSSMAN & PAM EKLUND

SPECIAL THANKS TO CINDY CHAU & JERRY CHU @ SEGA LICENSING

SONIC SELECT, Book Three, 2010. Printed in USA. Published by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Sega is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. SEGA, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters and indicia are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2010. SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM, LTD./SEGA CORPORATION © 2001-2010. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 350 Rhode Island St., Ste. 400, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Nothing may be reprinted in whole or part without written permission from Archie Comic Publications, Inc.

ISBN: 978-1-879794-62-7

ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.

JONATHAN GOLDWATER, co-ceo
NANCY SILBERKLEIT, co-ceo
MIKE PELLERITO, president
VICTOR GORELICK, co-president/e-i-c
BILL HORAN, director of circulation
PAUL KAMINSKI, editor
STEPHEN OSWALD, production manager
ROSARIO "TITO" PEÑA, interior cover restoration
IAN FLYNN, DUNCAN MCLACHLAN, JON GRAY,
production



TABLE OF CONTENTS

"Battle Royal!" (Sonic Super Special #1):

When the Freedom Fighters and the Chaotix throw down, sparks will fly! Take a ring-side seat as the two most powerful teams in the Sonic Universe duke it out for the Sword of Acorns! But who's really pulling the strings? Find out inside! It's ON, baby!

"The Map" (Sonic Super Special #1):

It's a race against time to discover what sinister secrets lurk beneath the city streets of Robotropolis! Will Antoine survive the deadly EggROBO assault to warn the Freedom Fighters?

"Brave New World" (Sonic Super Special #2):

Much has changed in the lives of the Freedom Fighters since the defeat of Dr. Robotnik, and rebuilding the world has proven to be no easy task! The challenges mount, new evils surface, old friends are reunited, and Sonic the Hedgehog searches for his place in this "BRAVE NEW WORLD".

"The Return of the King" (Sonic Super Special #4):

King Max may be back on his throne, but something is definitely rotten in the Kingdom of Acorn! After a royal decree to find the Robian (Roboticized Mobians) population and dismantle them, the Freedom Fighters stand in the middle of a virtual civil war! But are there more sinister forces fueling this conflict behind the scenes? Sonic had better figure it out quick, or his parents and beloved Uncle Chuck'll be turned into spare parts before you can say "chili dog"!

"Eel of Fortune" (Mecha Madness):

The Forty Fathom Freedom Fighters are back in an all-new adventure under the high seas! A new villain, EEL CAPONE, has slithered and slimed his way to the top of the Underwater Underworld, and it's up to the FFFF to stop him! Can our heroes save the day without the help of FLUKE THE WHALE? Will Eel's "hired mussel" capsize Bivalve's crew? You gotta read this one to believe it!

"Bugged Bunny" (Sonic Blast):

Dr. Robotnik and his nephew Snively have planted a secret device on Bunnie Rabbot! As the two villains attempt to discover the secret location of Knothole Village, Bunnie's skills prove to be a bigger challenge than expected! It's a flashback adventure you won't want to miss!

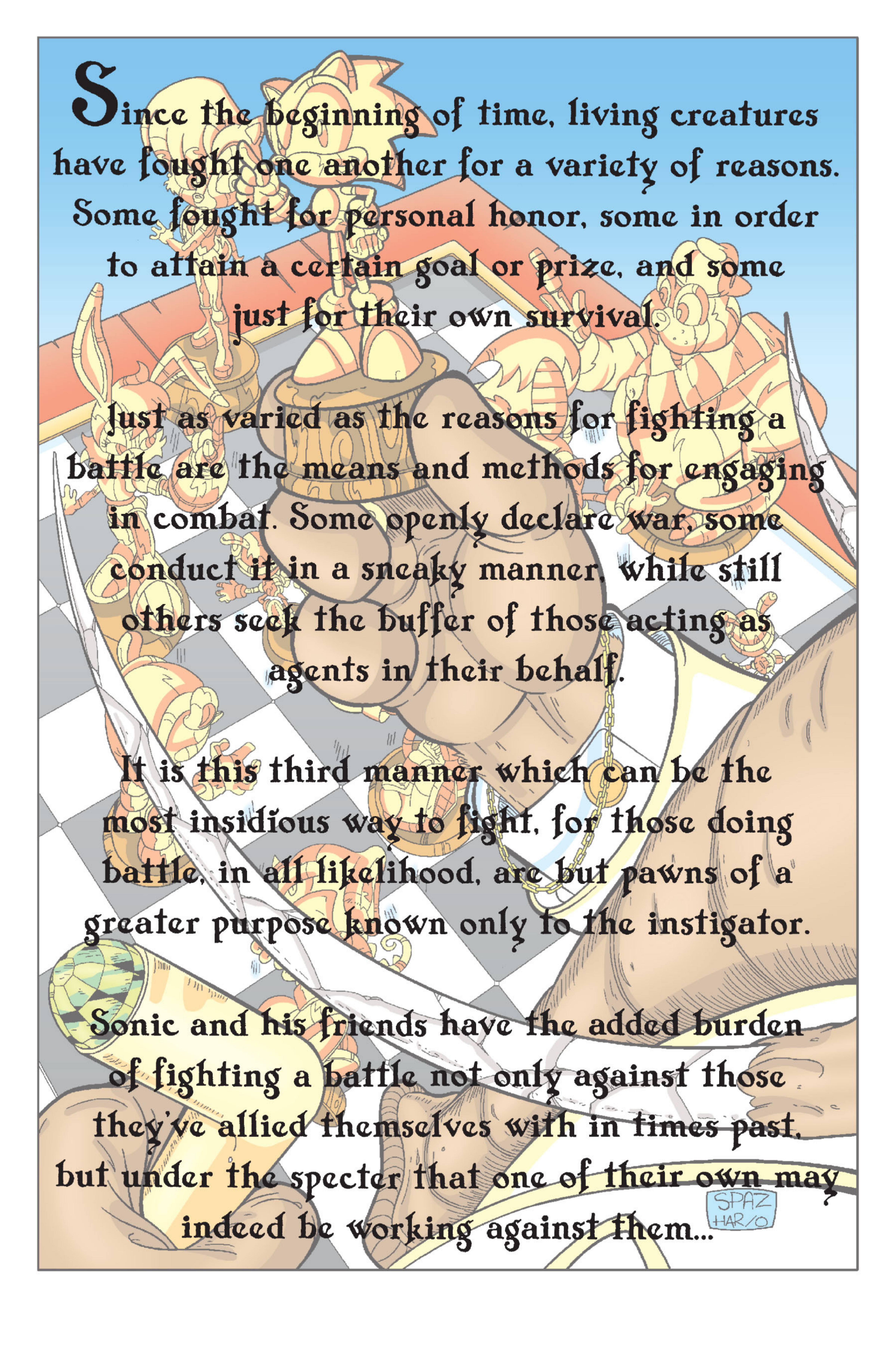
Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES
NO.1 US \$2.00
CAN \$2.50

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

BATTLE ROYAL

48 PAGE SPECIAL!





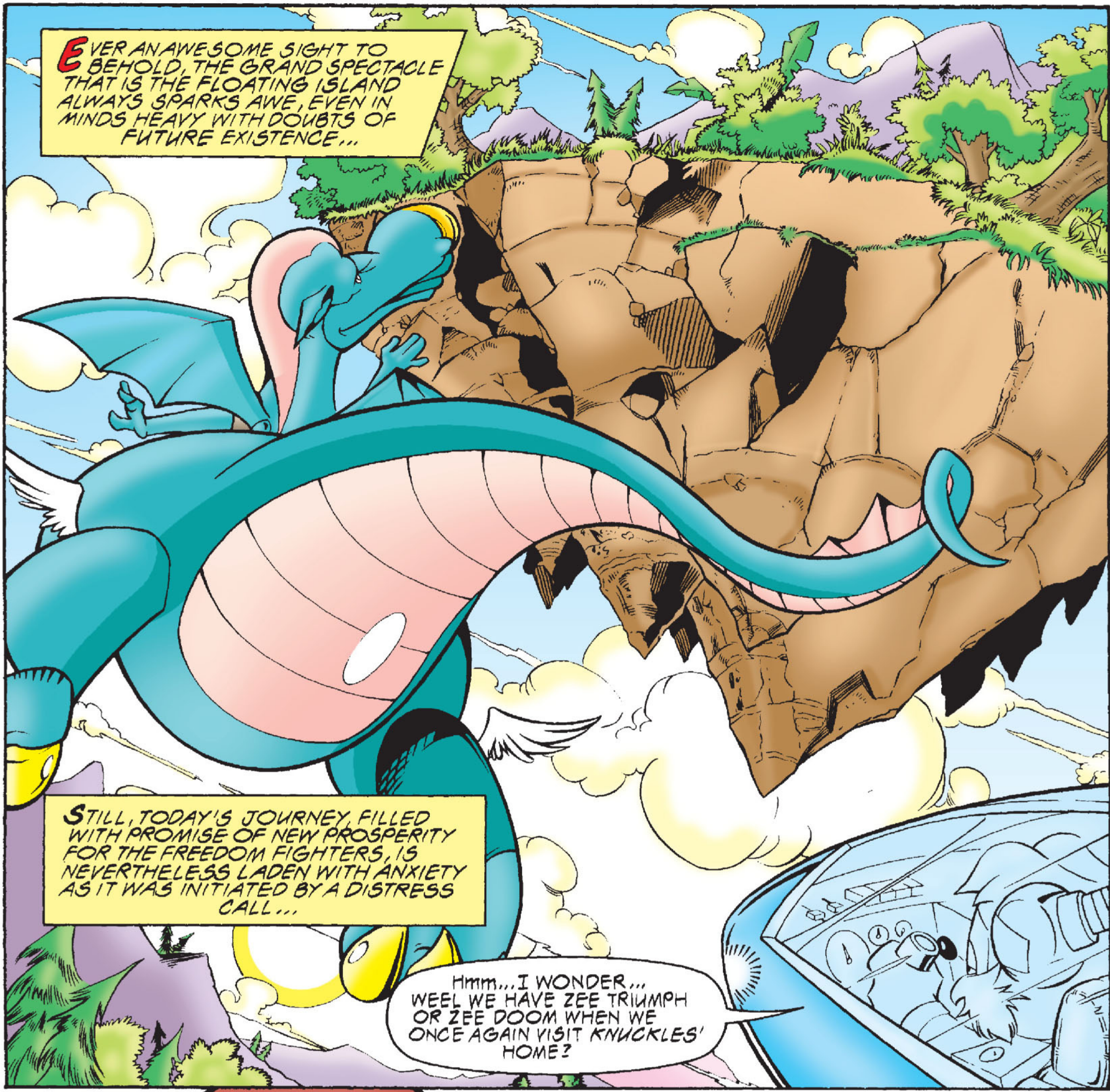
Since the beginning of time, living creatures have fought one another for a variety of reasons. Some fought for personal honor, some in order to attain a certain goal or prize, and some just for their own survival.

Just as varied as the reasons for fighting a battle are the means and methods for engaging in combat. Some openly declare war, some conduct it in a sneaky manner, while still others seek the buffer of those acting as agents in their behalf.

It is this third manner which can be the most insidious way to fight, for those doing battle, in all likelihood, are but pawns of a greater purpose known only to the instigator.

Sonic and his friends have the added burden of fighting a battle not only against those they've allied themselves with in times past, but under the specter that one of their own may indeed be working against them...

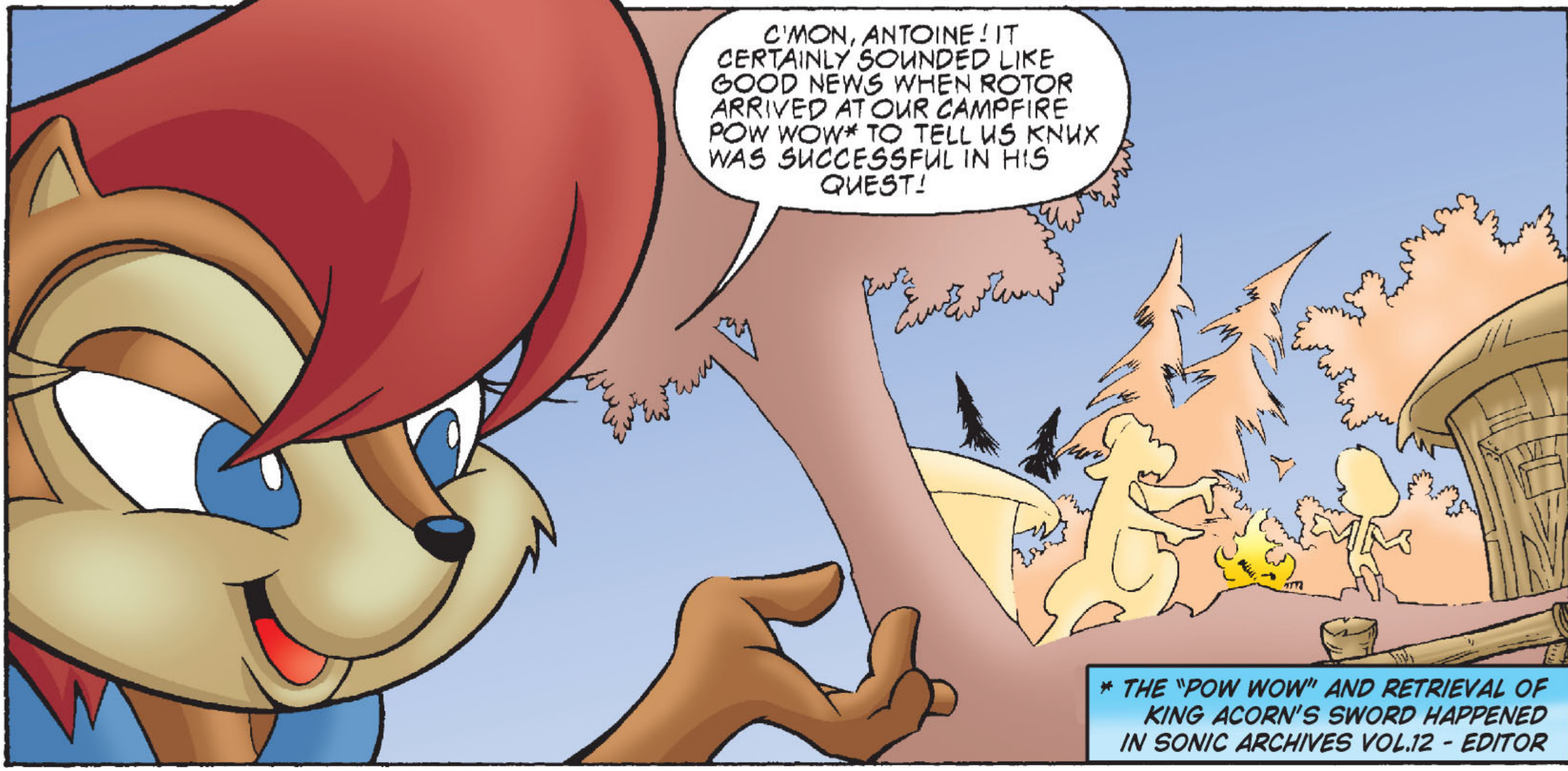




EVER AN AWESOME SIGHT TO BEHOLD, THE GRAND SPECTACLE THAT IS THE FLOATING ISLAND ALWAYS SPARKS AWE, EVEN IN MINDS HEAVY WITH DOUBTS OF FUTURE EXISTENCE...

STILL, TODAY'S JOURNEY, FILLED WITH PROMISE OF NEW PROSPERITY FOR THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IS NEVERTHELESS LADEN WITH ANXIETY AS IT WAS INITIATED BY A DISTRESS CALL...

Hmm... I WONDER...
WE'LL WE HAVE ZEE TRIUMPH
OR ZEE DOOM WHEN WE
ONCE AGAIN VISIT KNUCKLES'
HOME?



C'MON, ANTOINE! IT
CERTAINLY SOUNDED LIKE
GOOD NEWS WHEN ROTOR
ARRIVED AT OUR CAMPFIRE
POW WOW* TO TELL US KNUX
WAS SUCCESSFUL IN HIS
QUEST!

* THE "POW WOW" AND RETRIEVAL OF
KING ACORN'S SWORD HAPPENED
IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.12 - EDITOR



PART ONE

THAT'S CAUSE
WE JUST FINISHED
DEFEATING OUR
ENEMIES... THANKS
TO THE MYSTIC
POWER OF THE
KING'S SWORD!

IN FACT, IT WAS SO SWEET WE'VE GOT ORDERS FROM KNUX TO SEND YOU PACKIN' WITH-OUT IT!

BUT...WHAT ABOUT KNUCKLES' SOLEMN VOW?

VOW, SHMOW!
LOOKS LIKE WHAT
I'VE ALWAYS SAID
IS STILL TRUE-- OL'
POINTY HEAD CAN'T
BE TRUSTED!

Dulcy The Dragon

Tails

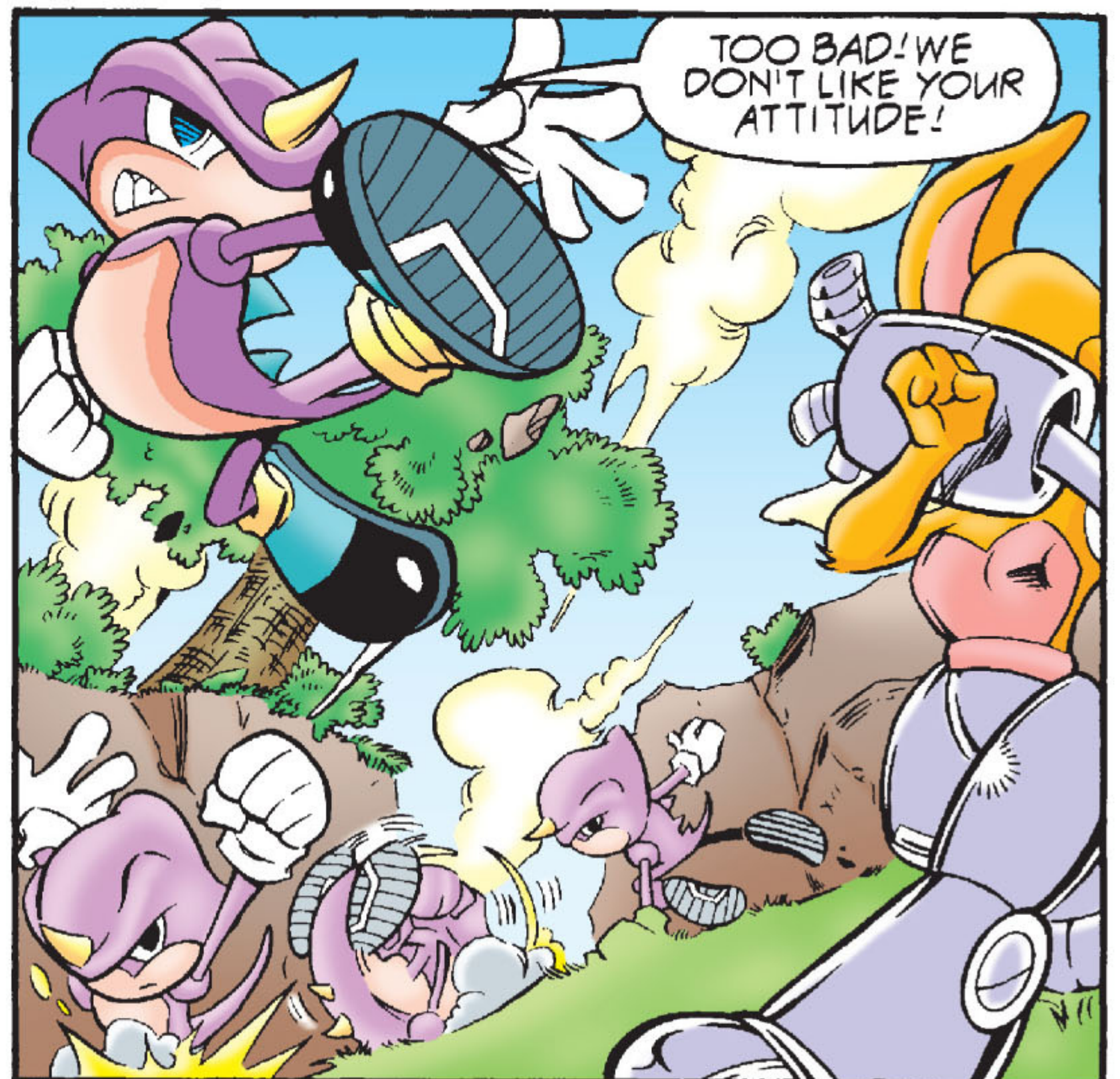
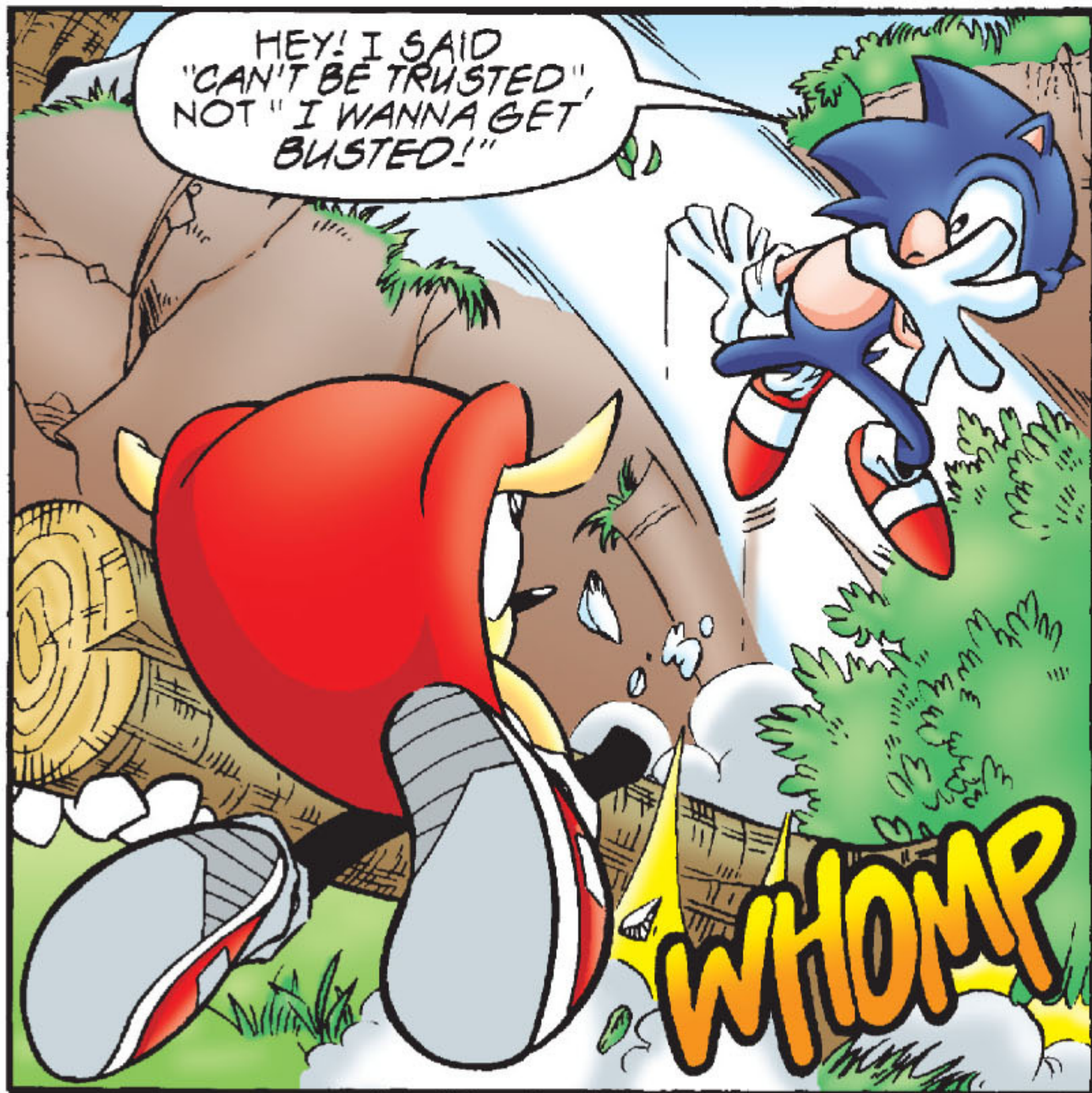
Princess Sally Acorn

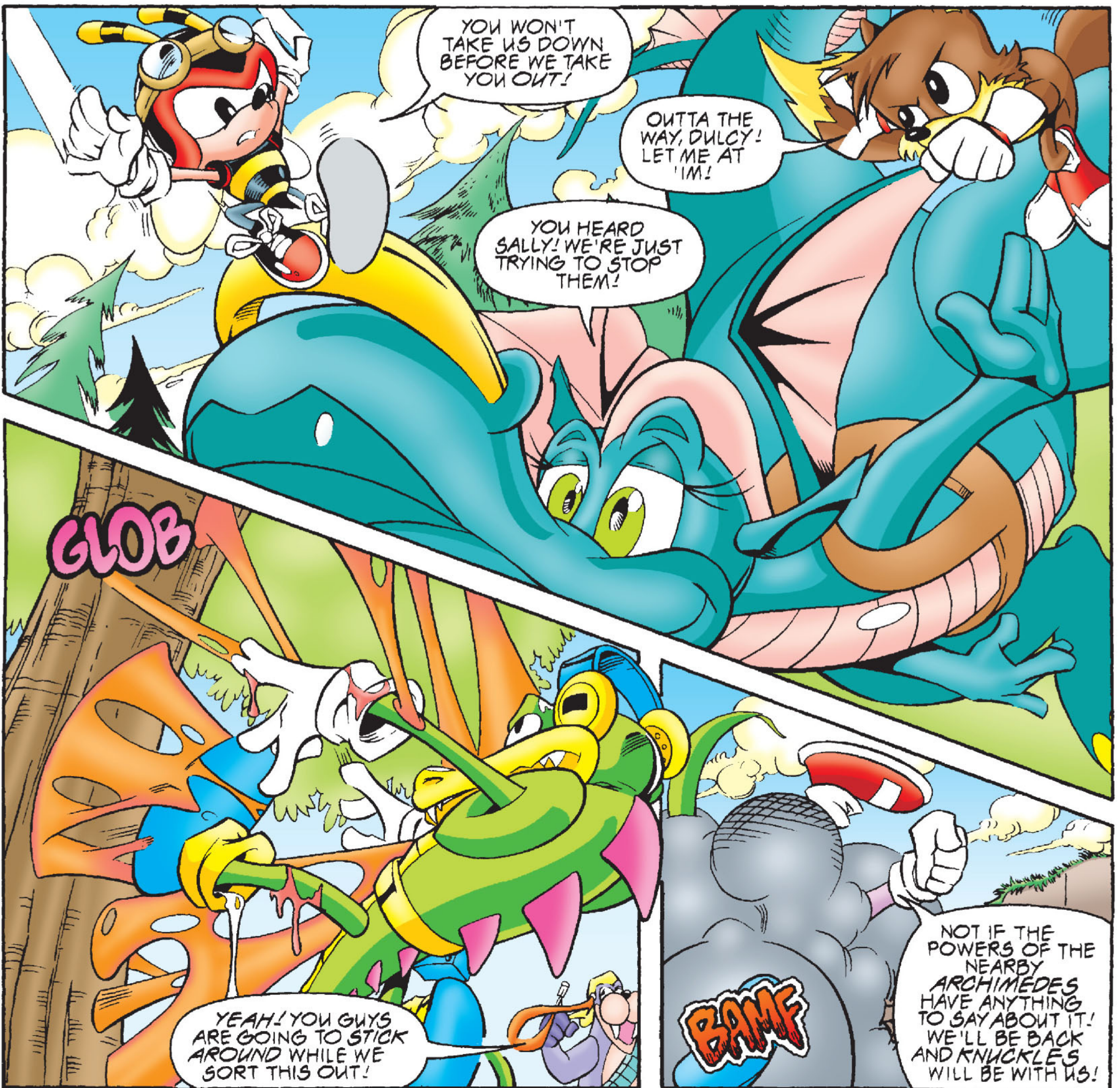
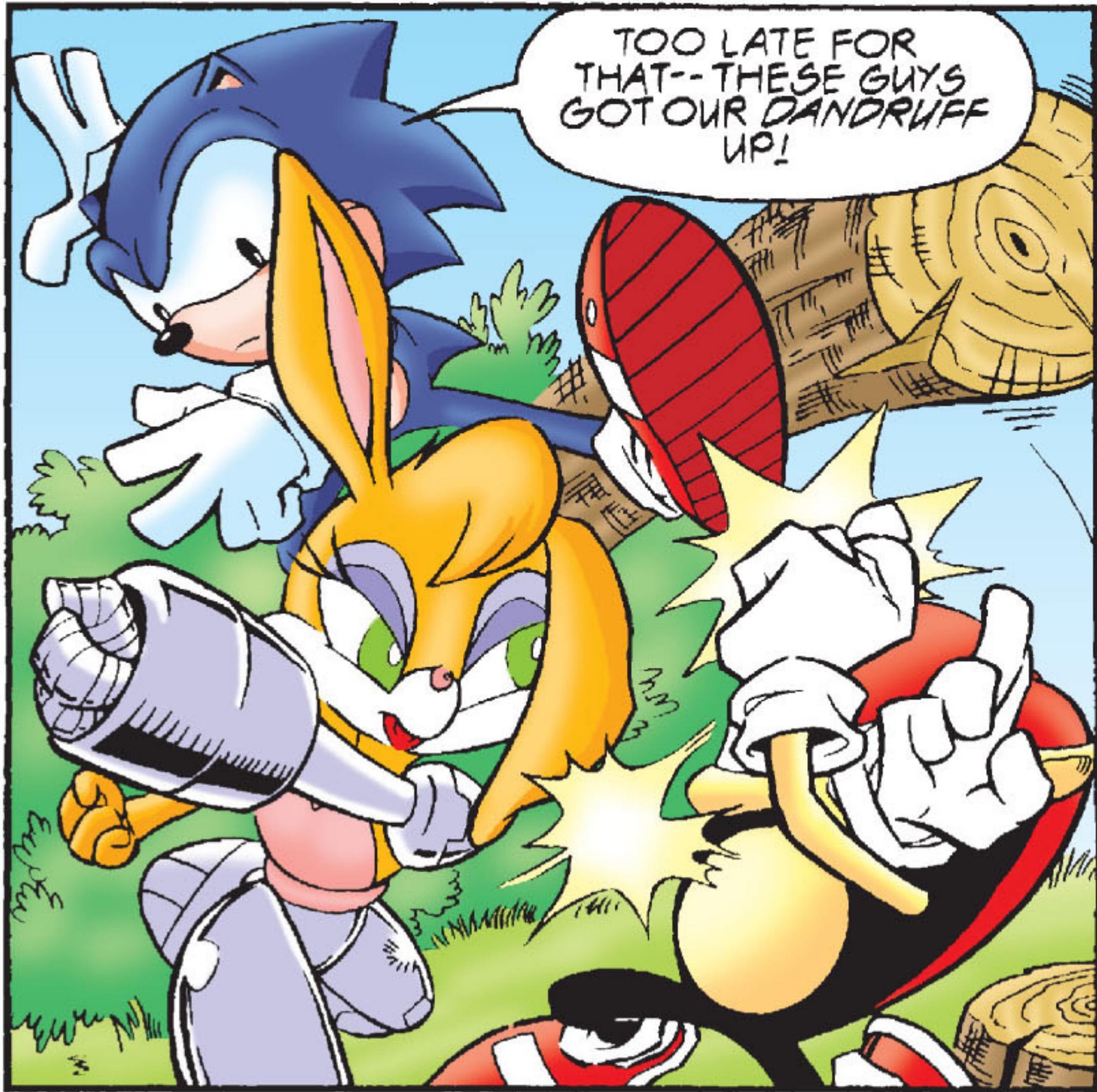
Sonic The Hedgehog

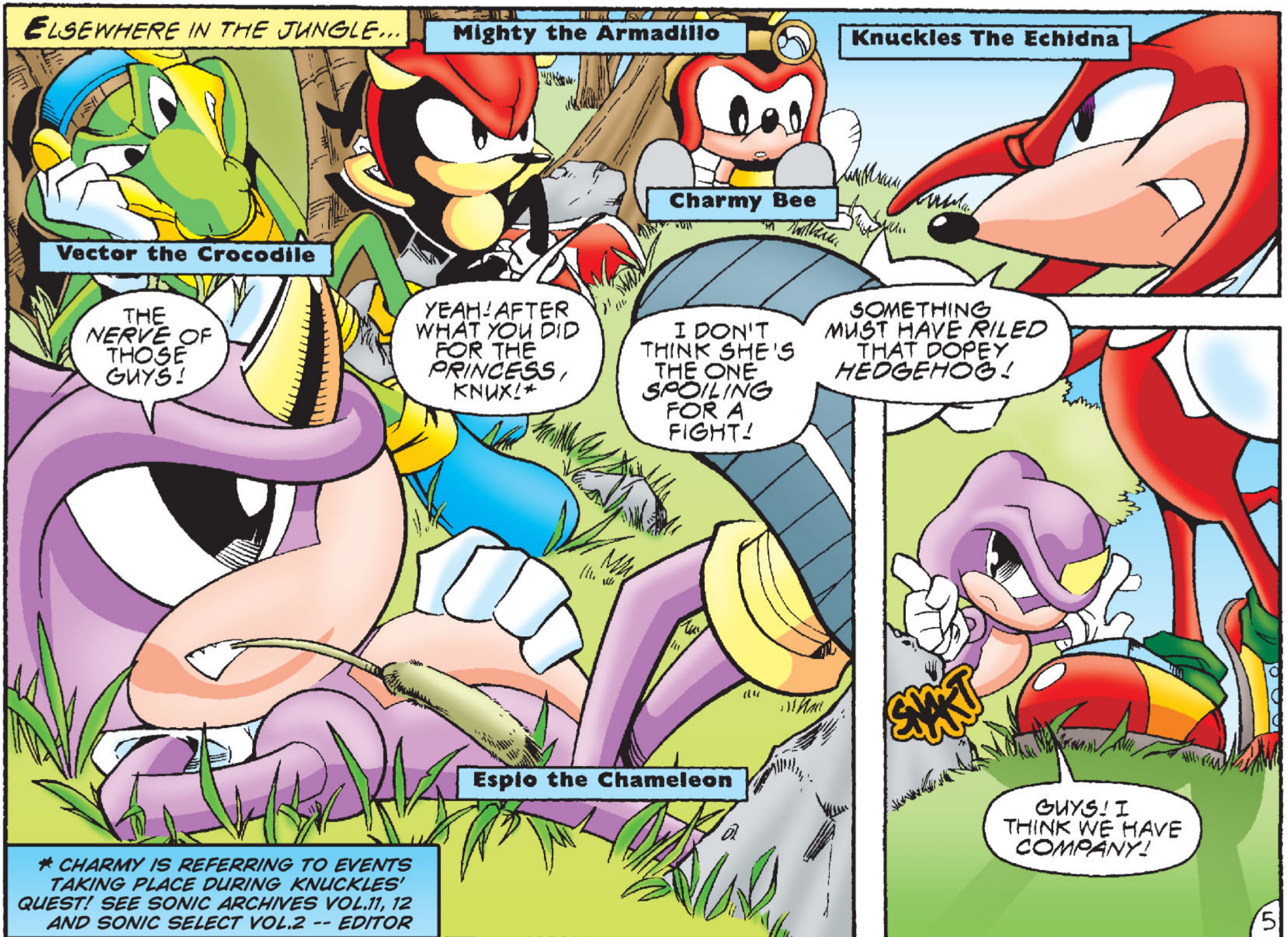
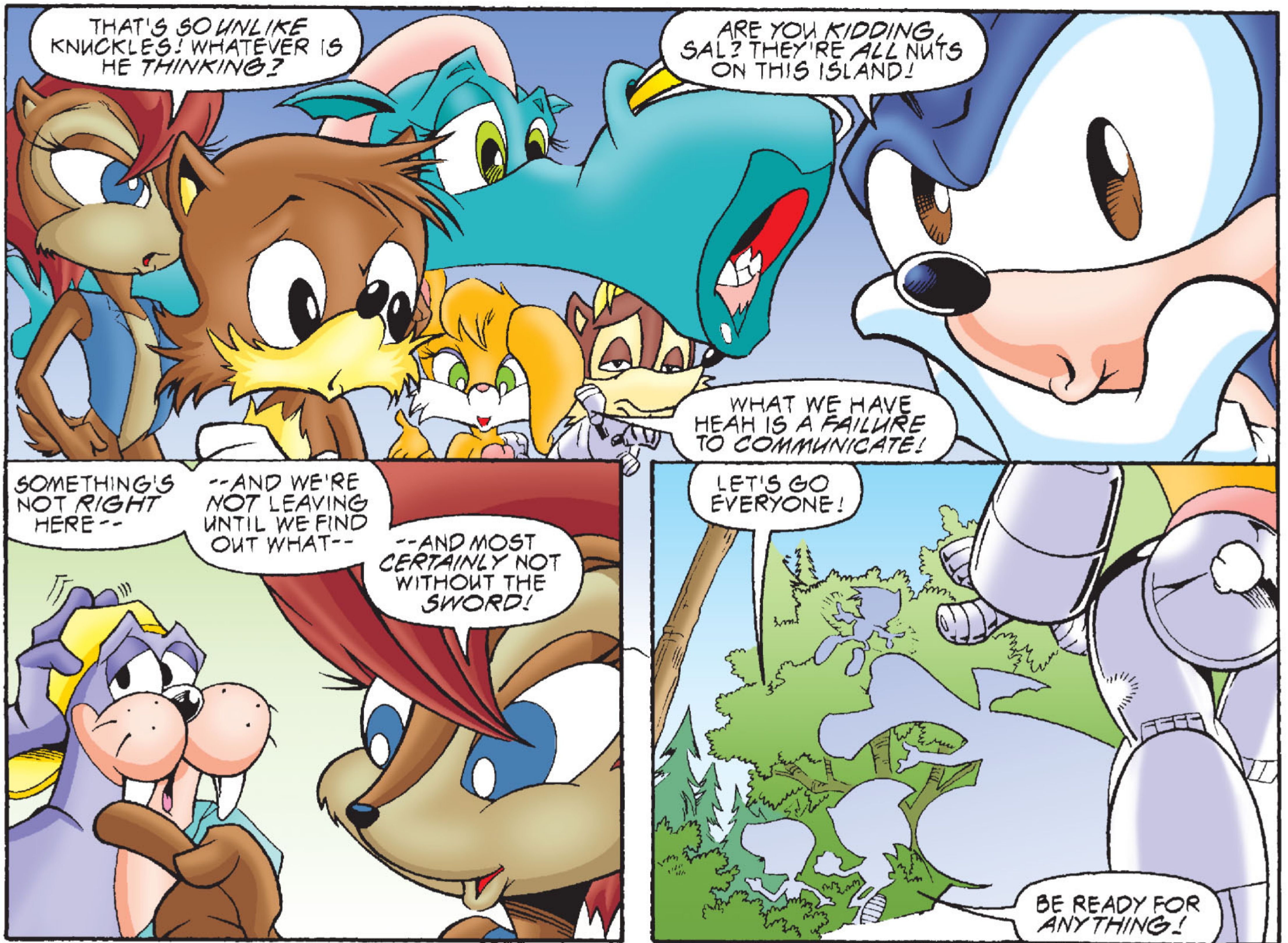
Rotor

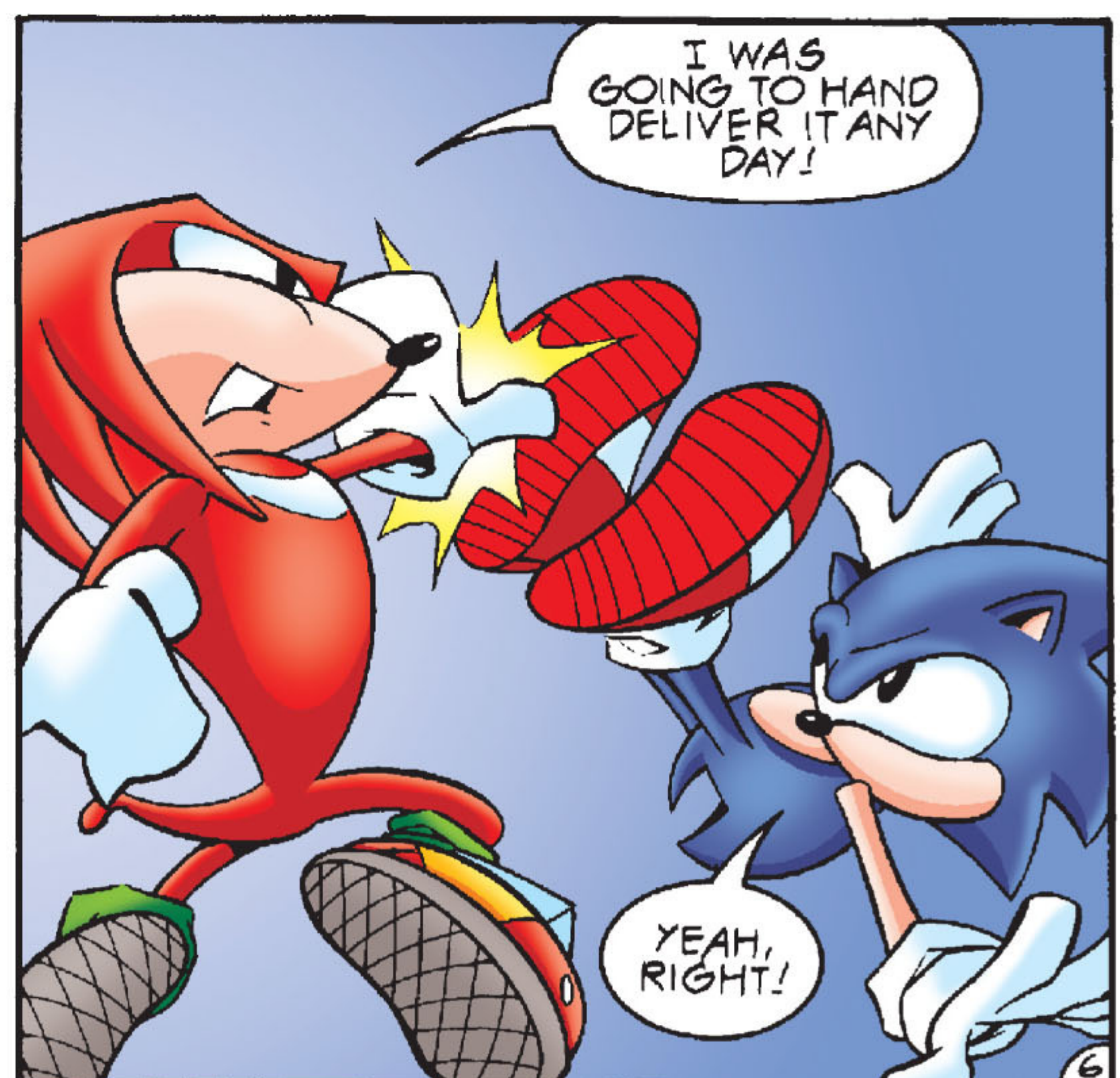
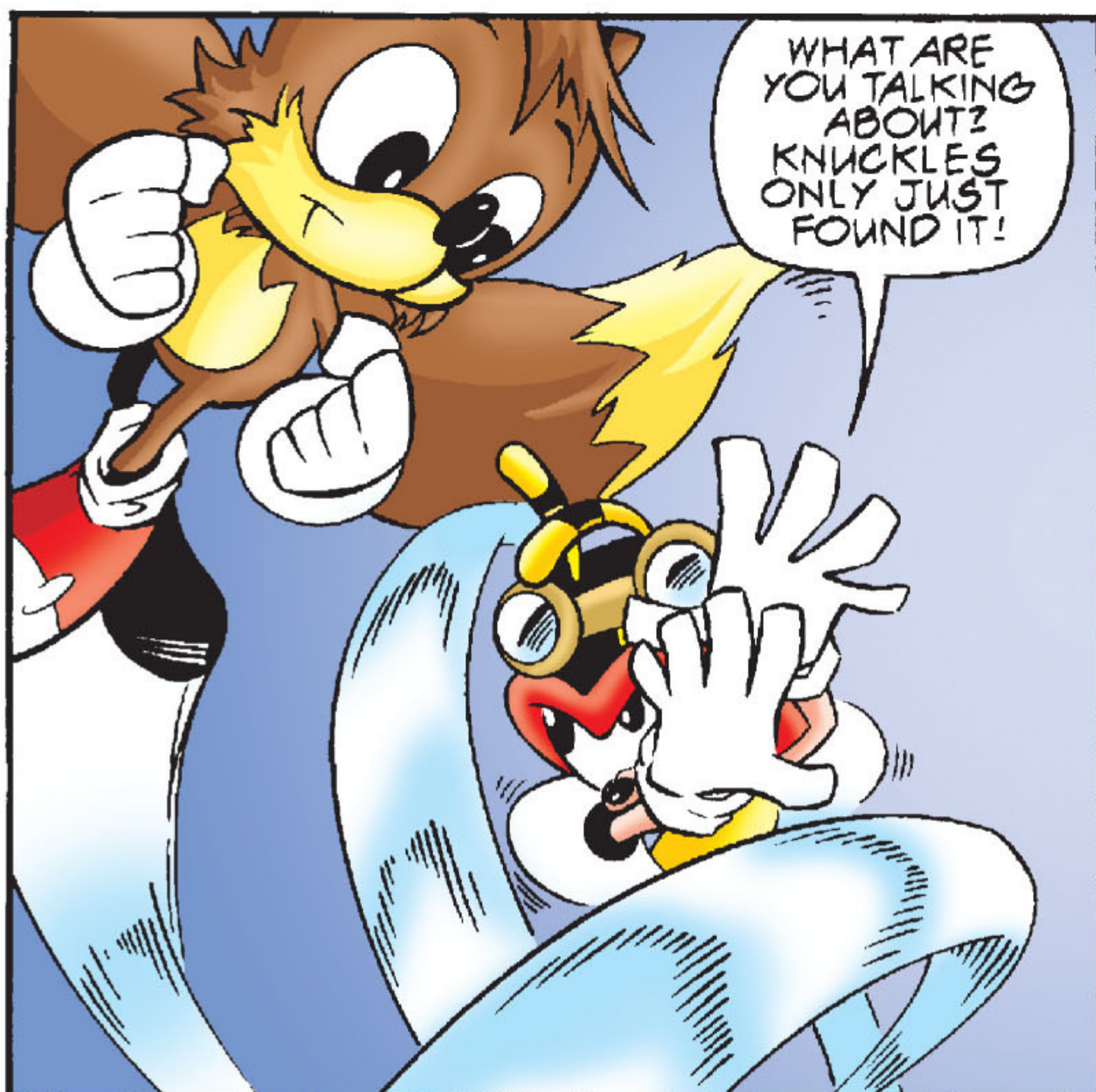
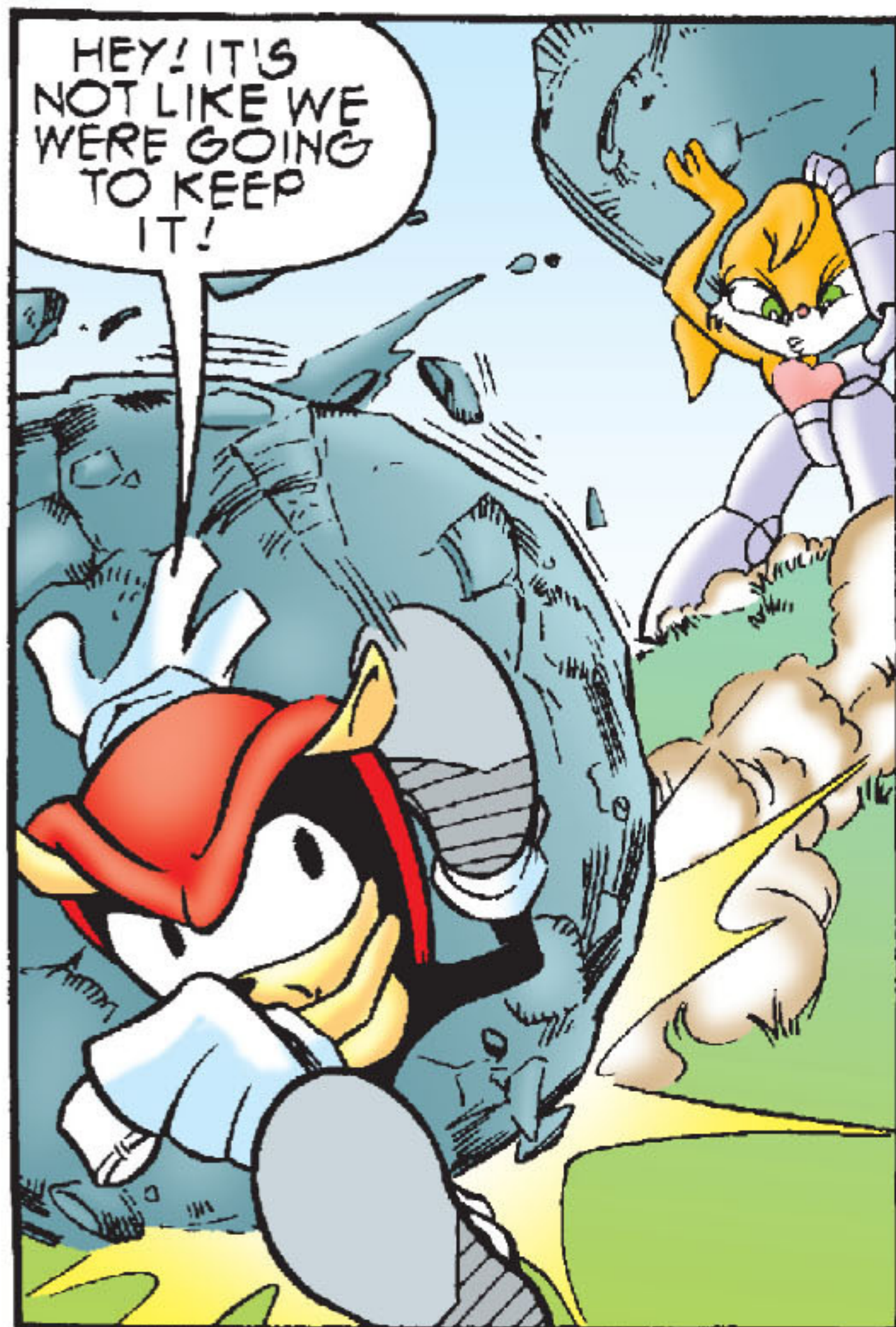
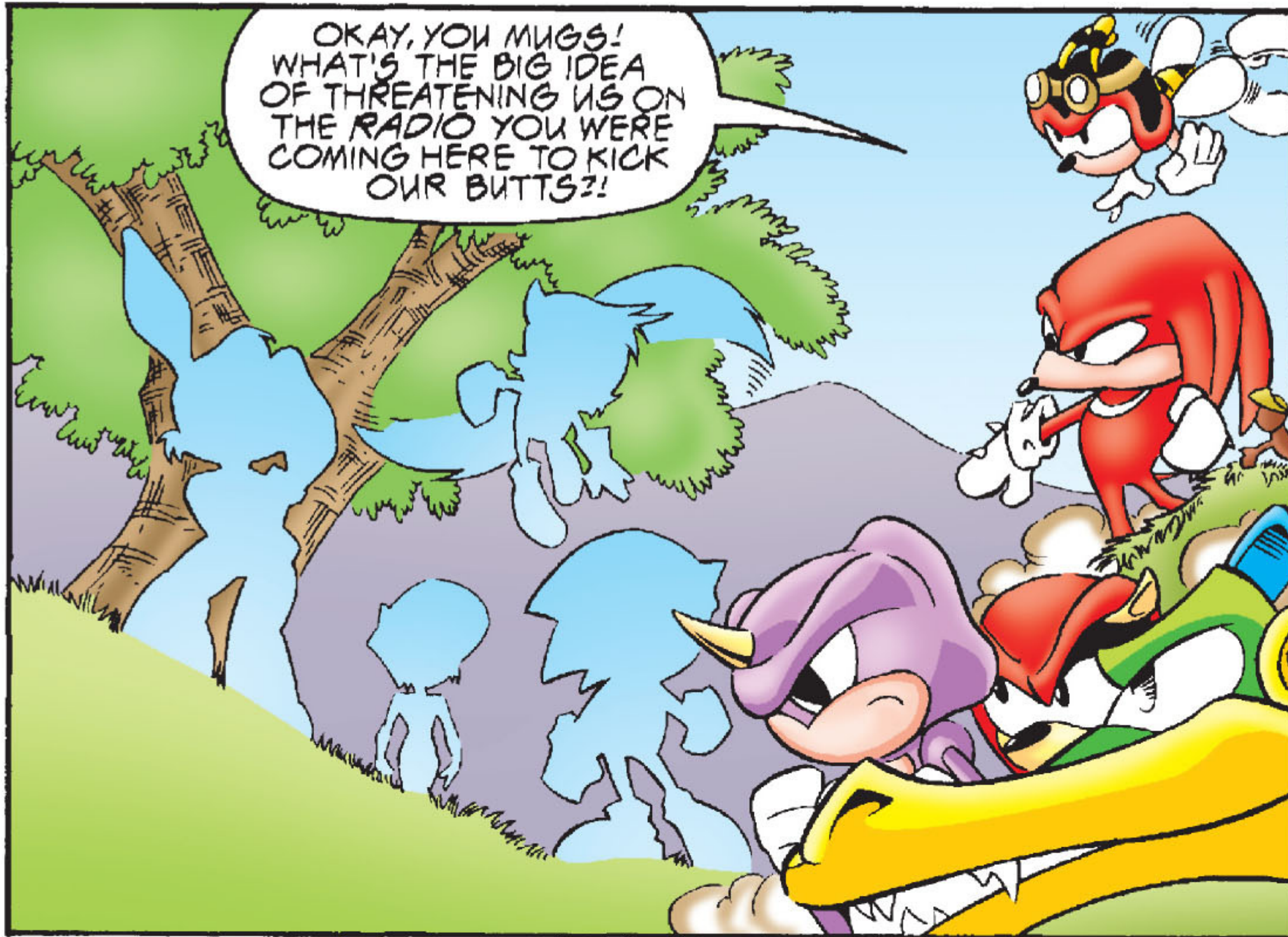
Antoine D'Coolette

Bunnie Rabbot

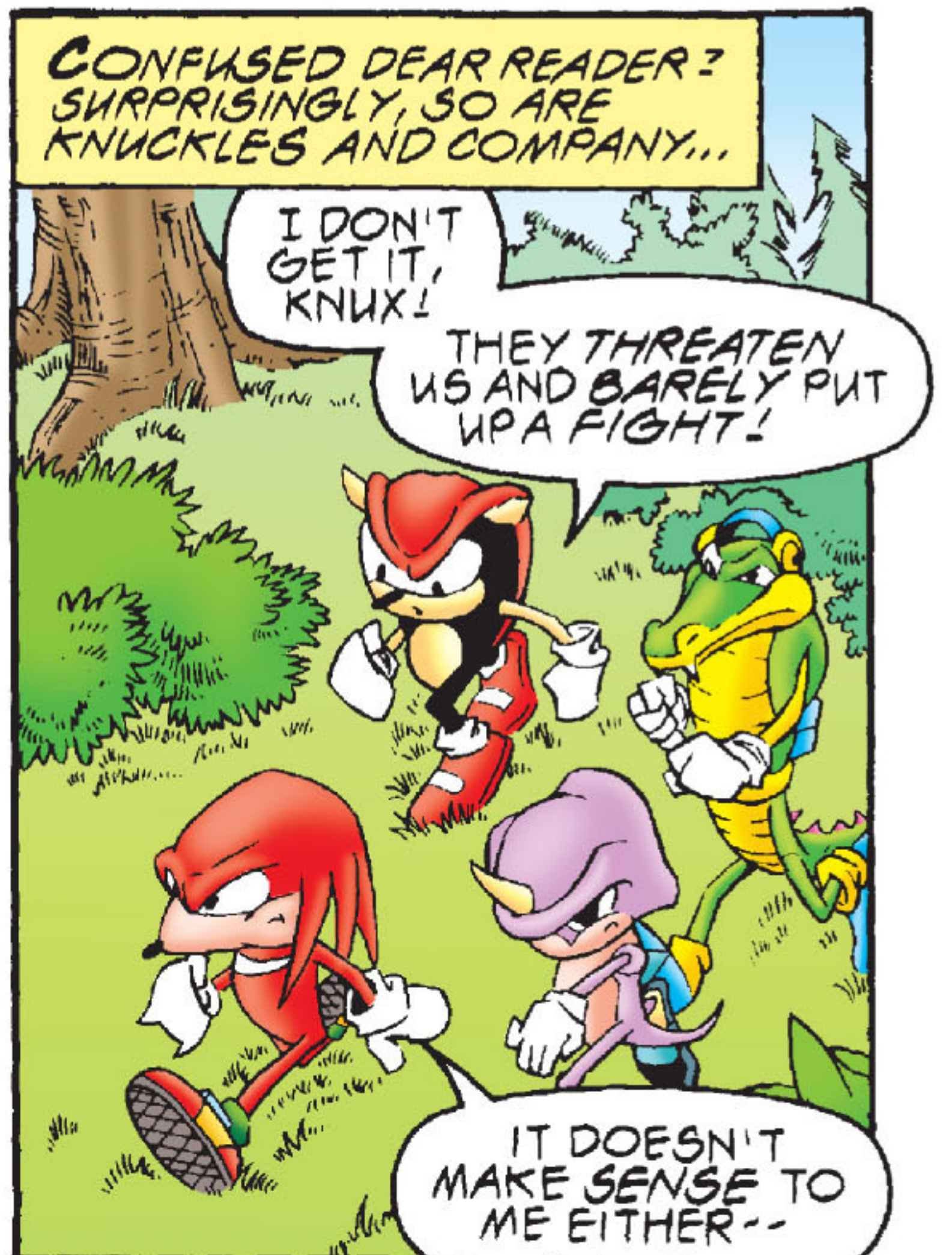












PART TWO

I CAN SEE
BOYS WILL BE
BOYS!

THIS
CALLS FOR
SANER
HEADS!

IF THERE'S
ONE THING I
REALLY
HATE--

--IT'S
CHISELERS
WHO GO BACK
ON THEIR
WORD!

YOU'VE LOST IT! YOU'VE TOTALLY LOST IT!

EITHER THAT--
OR YOU'VE ONE BIG DEATH WISH!

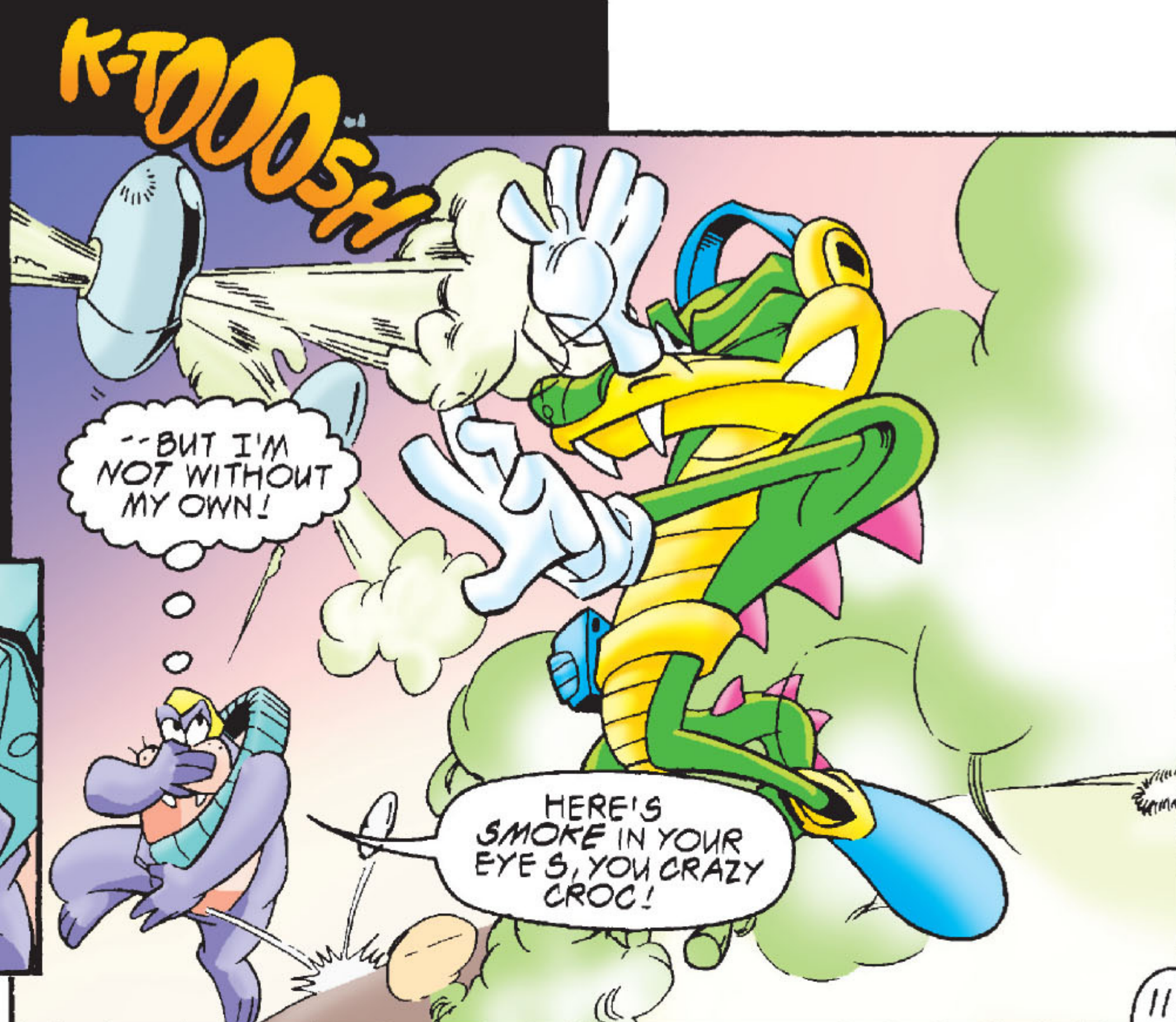
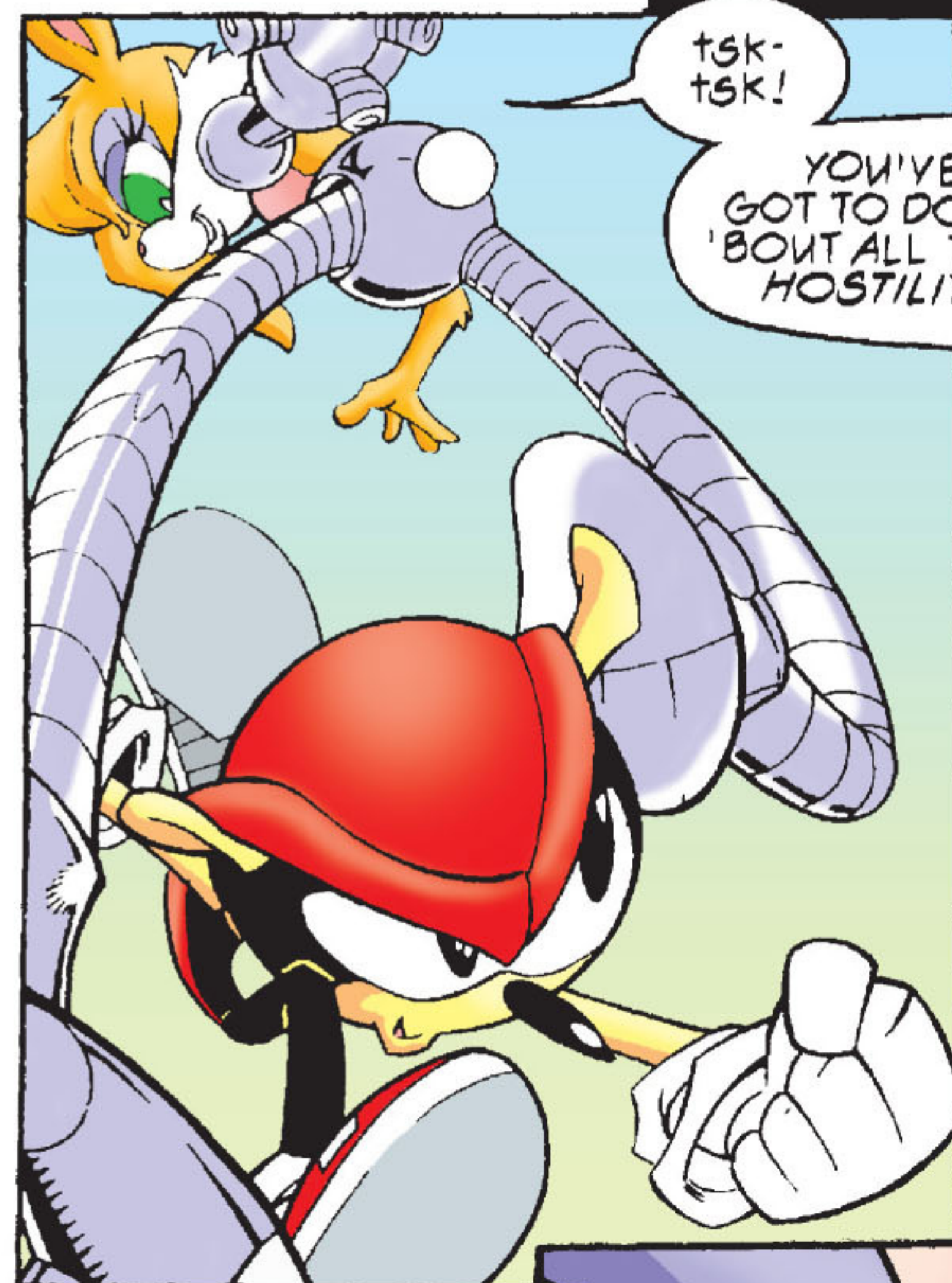
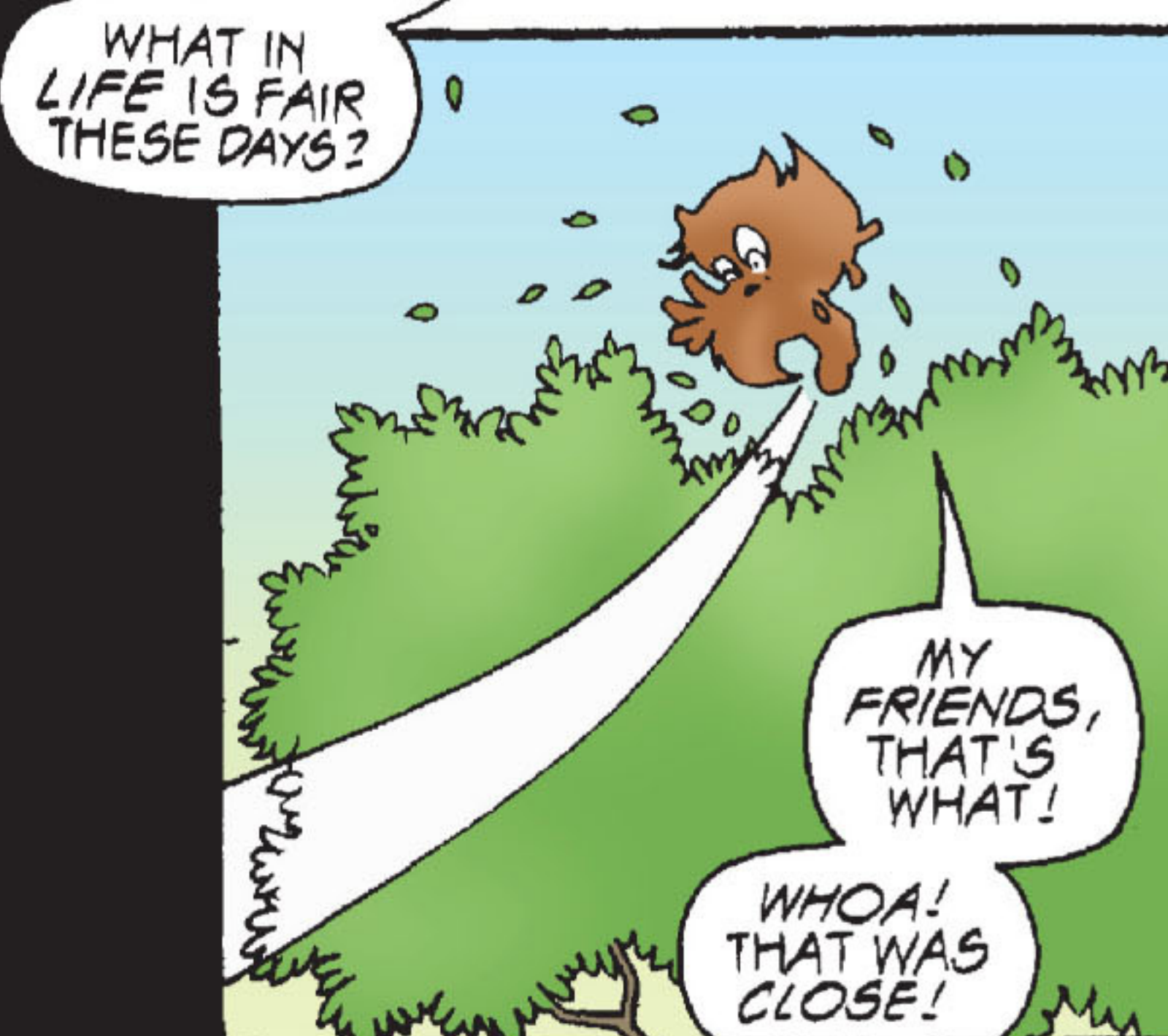
EITHER THAT--
OR YOU'VE ONE
DEATH WISH!

YOU CAN'T KICK
US FREEDOM FIGHTERS
AROUND AND GET AWAY
WITH IT!

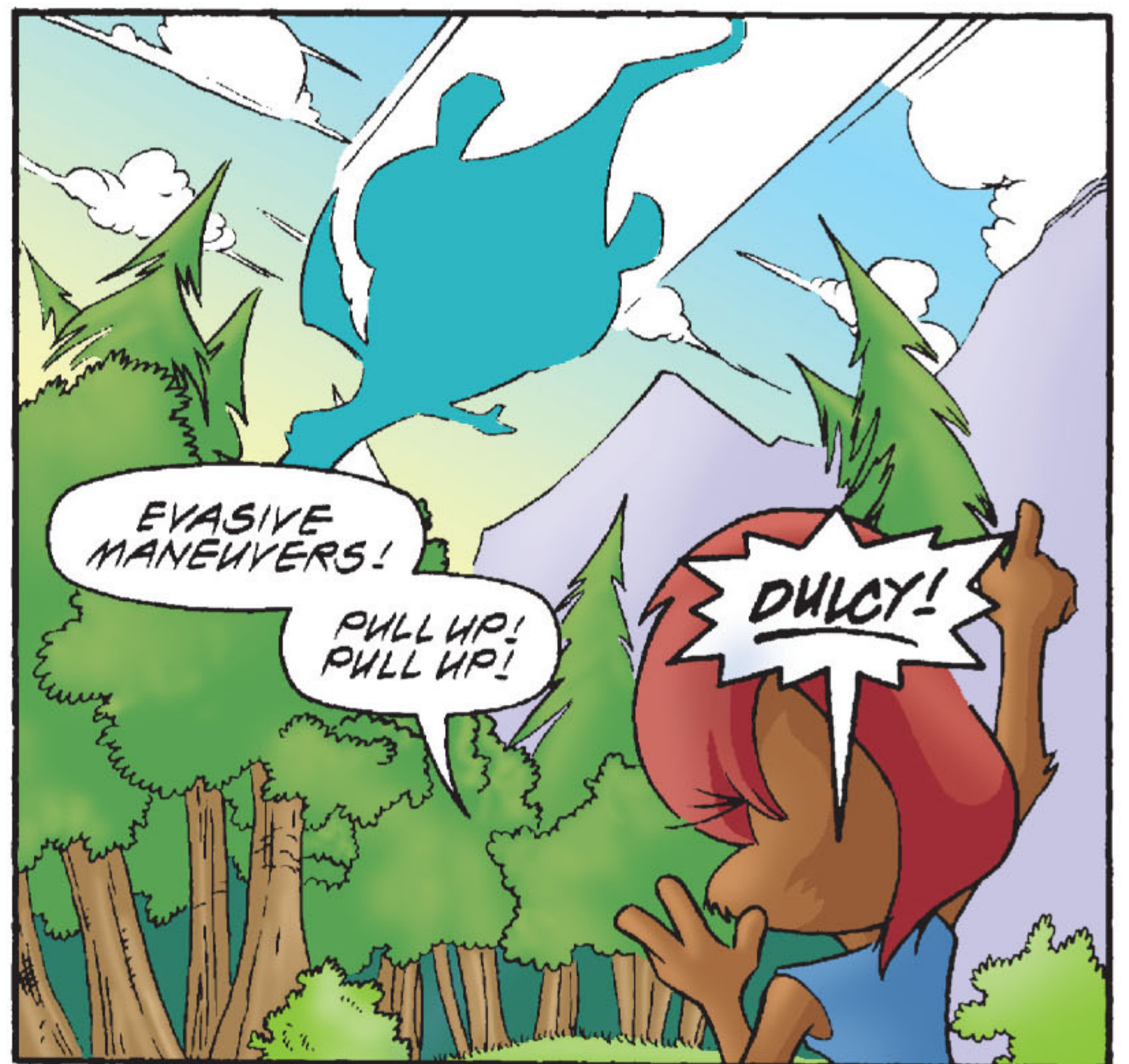
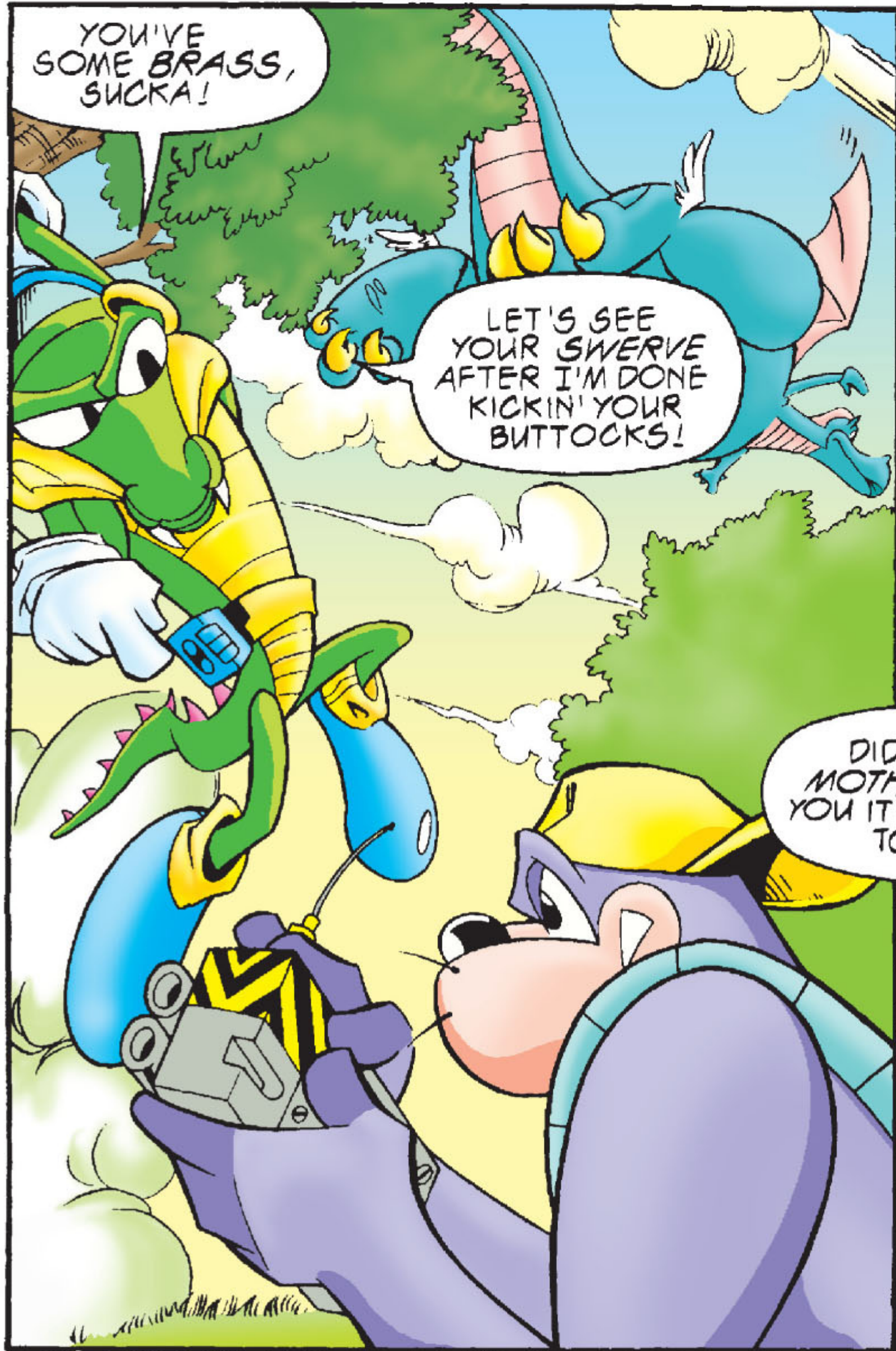
SONI
WAIT

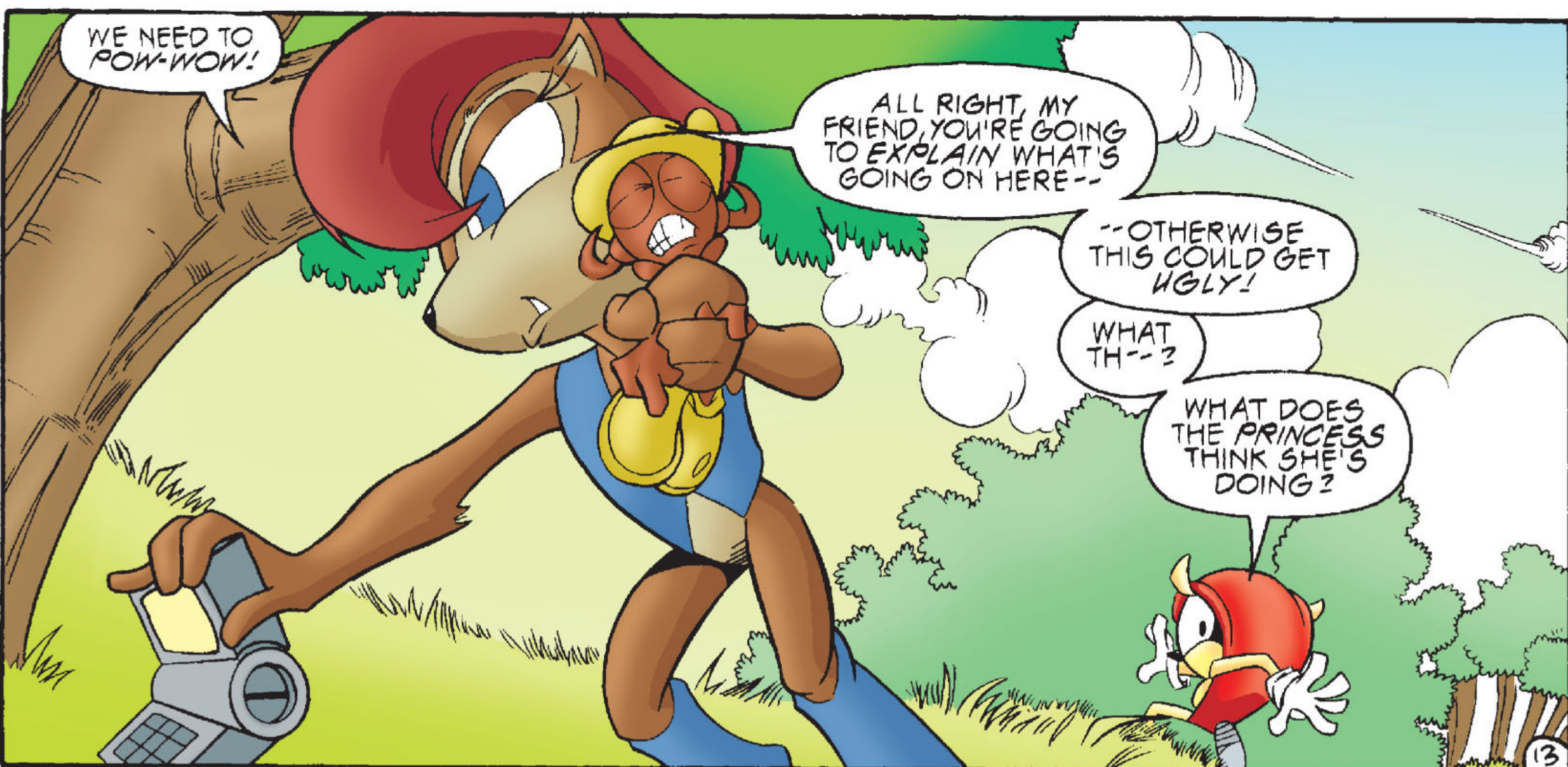
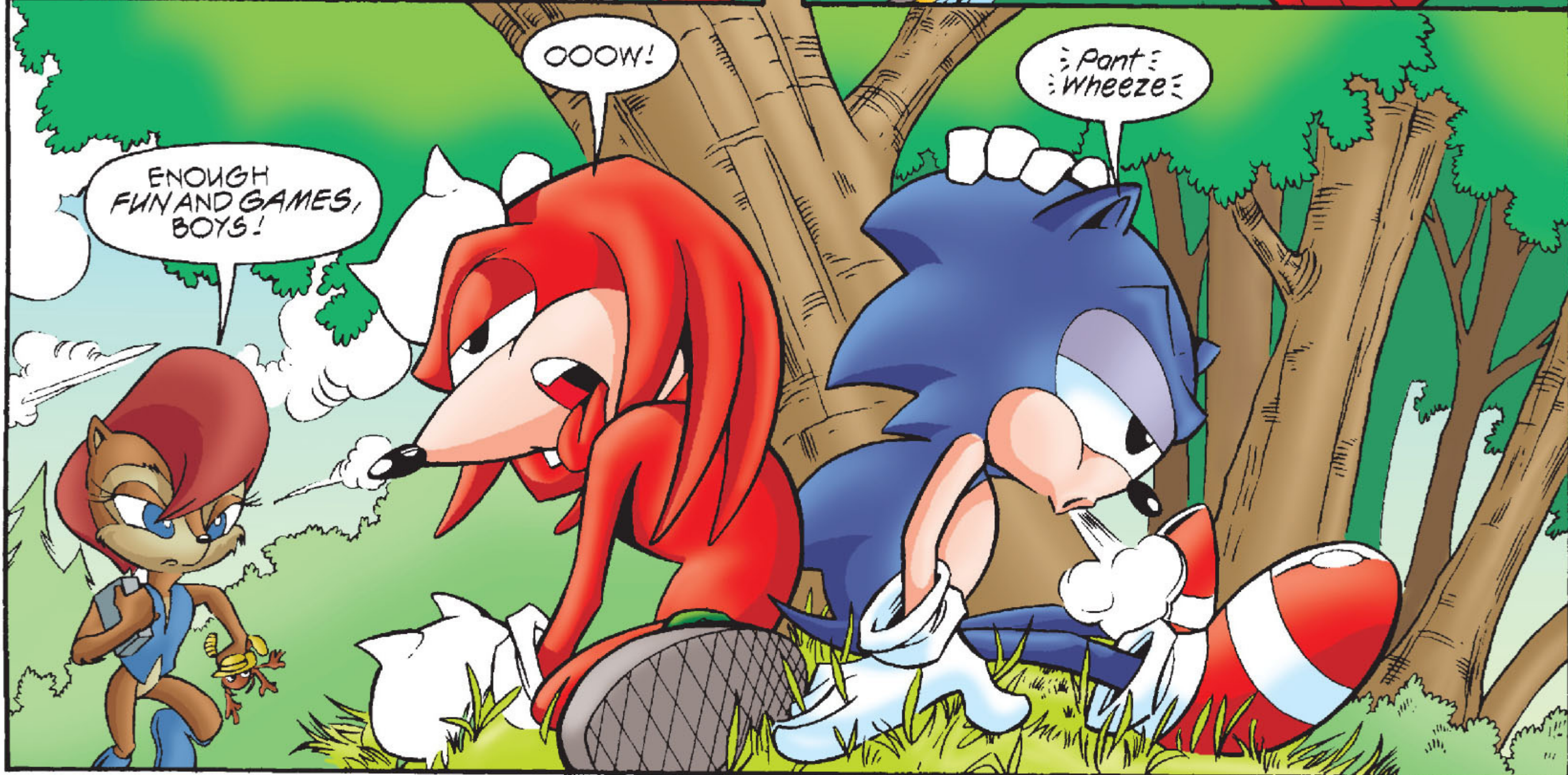
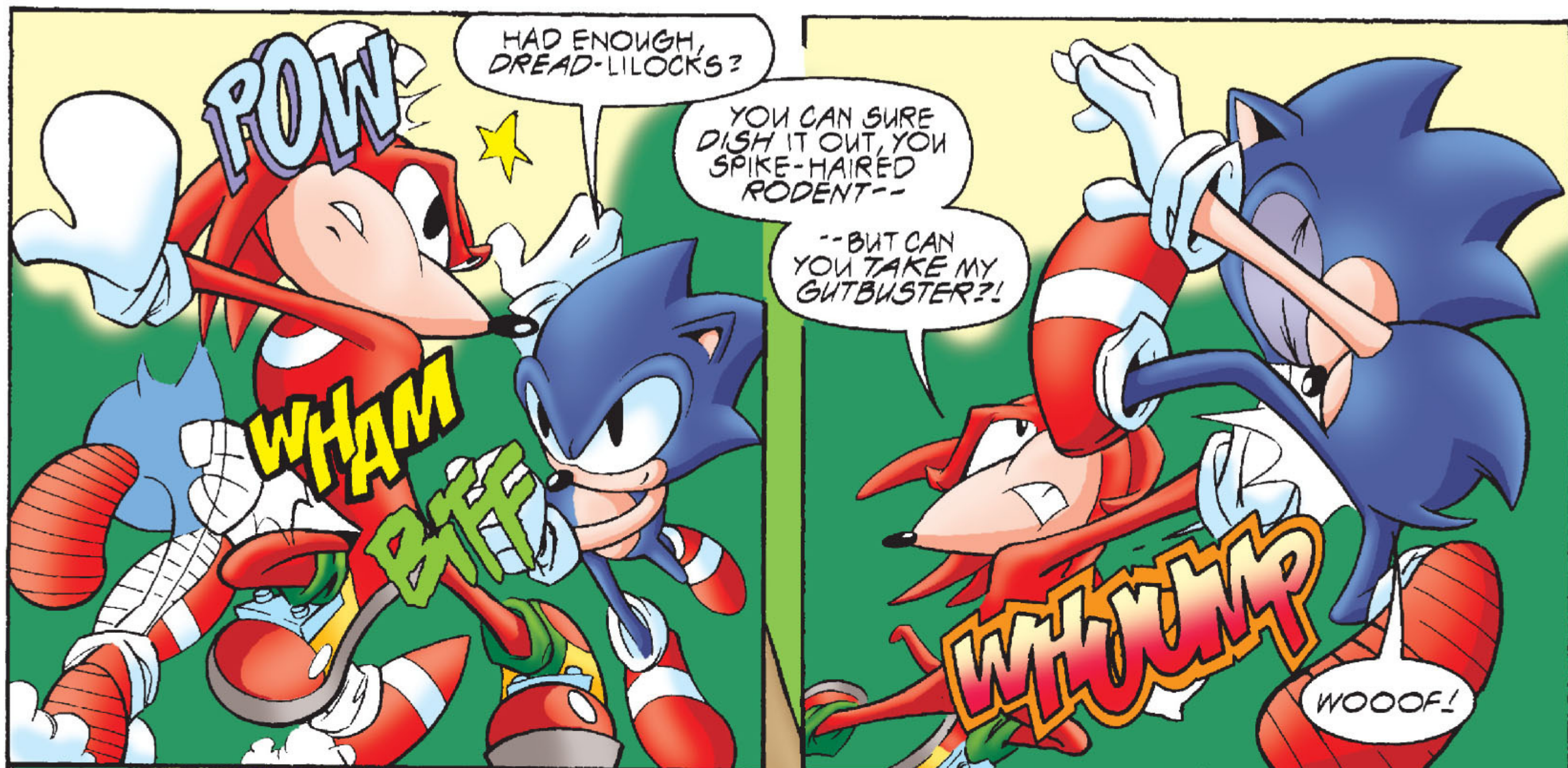
Oh, THIS IS
HOPELESS!

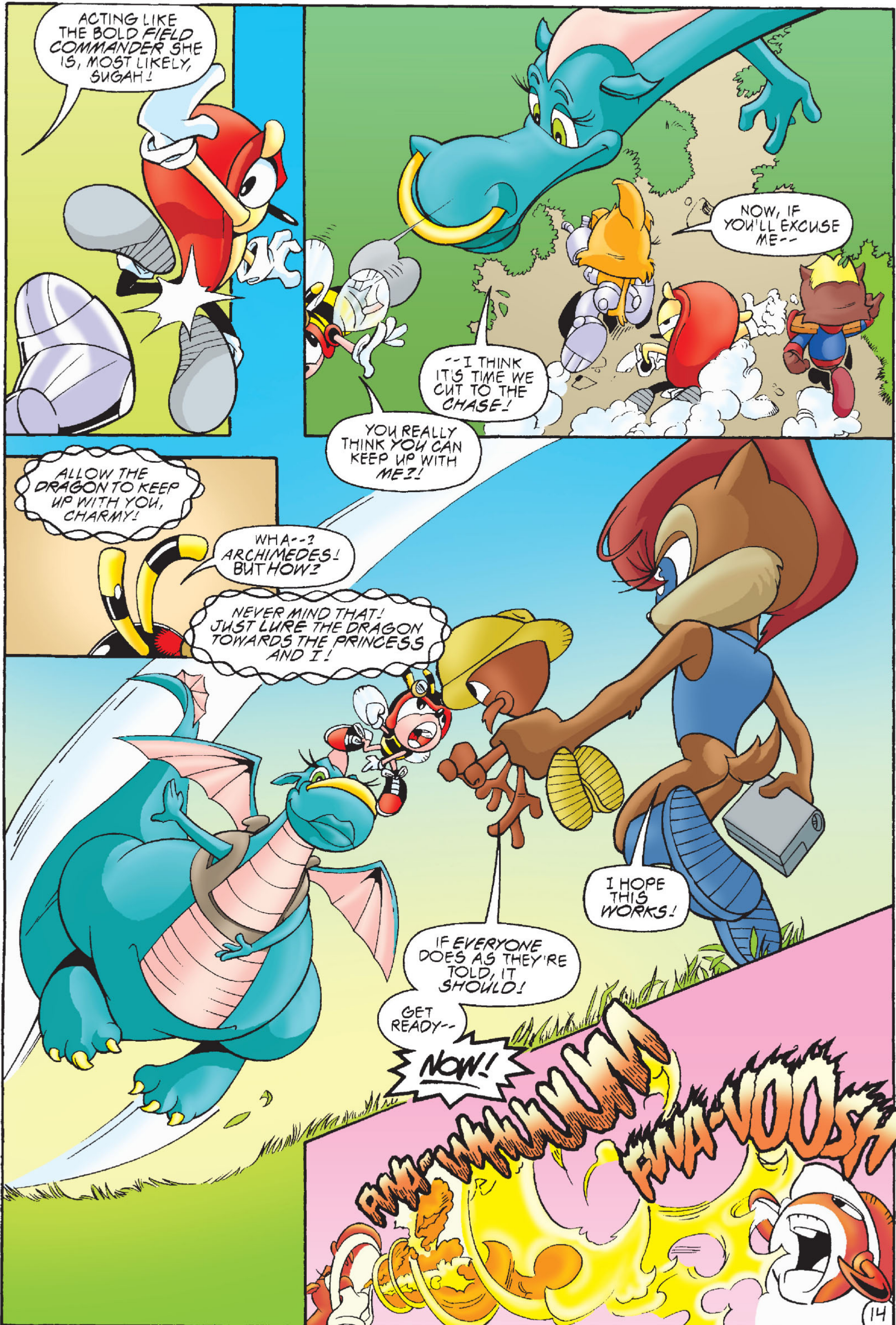
YO, BOY! YOU
BE THE ONE WHO
DISSED US
FIRST!

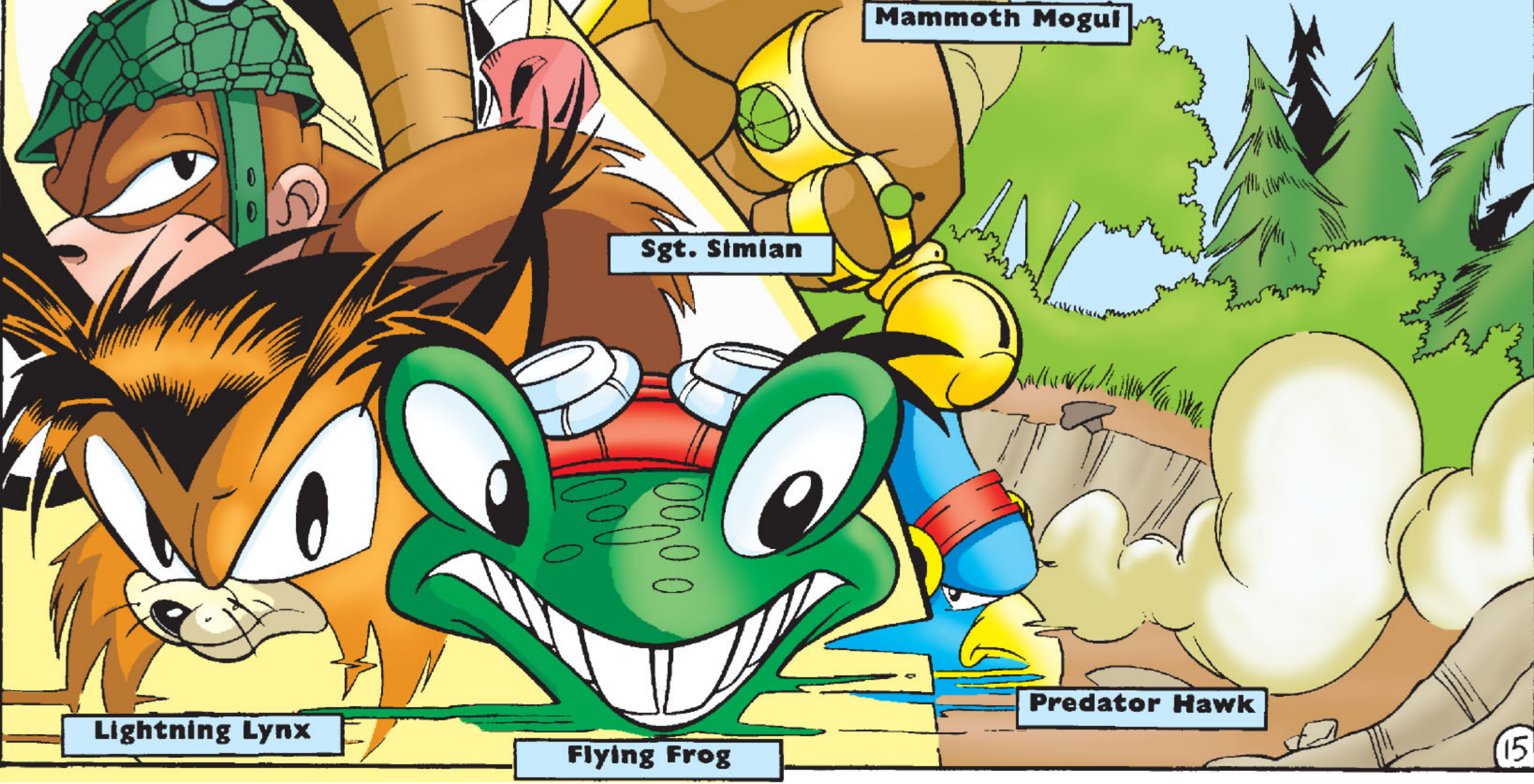
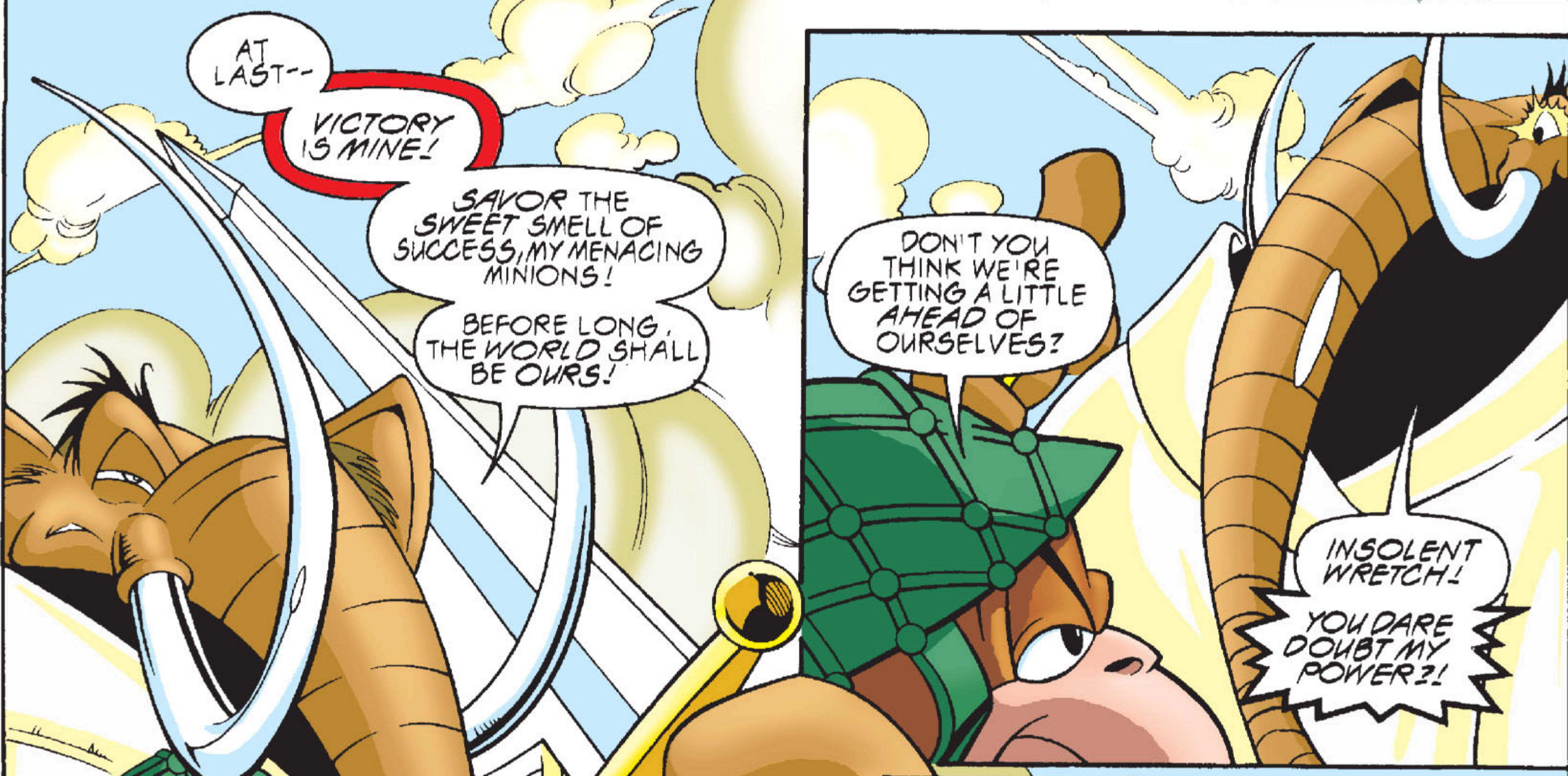
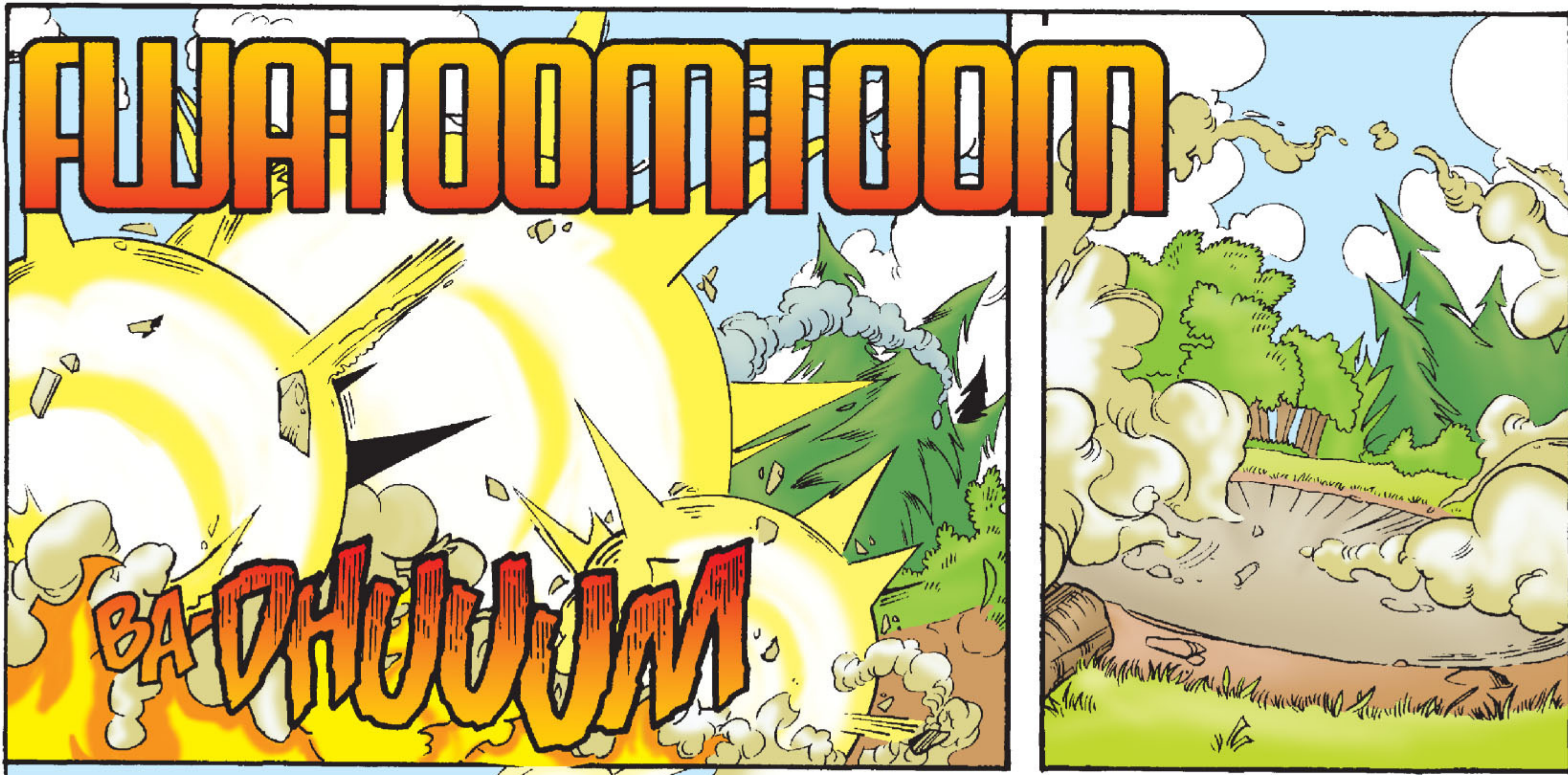


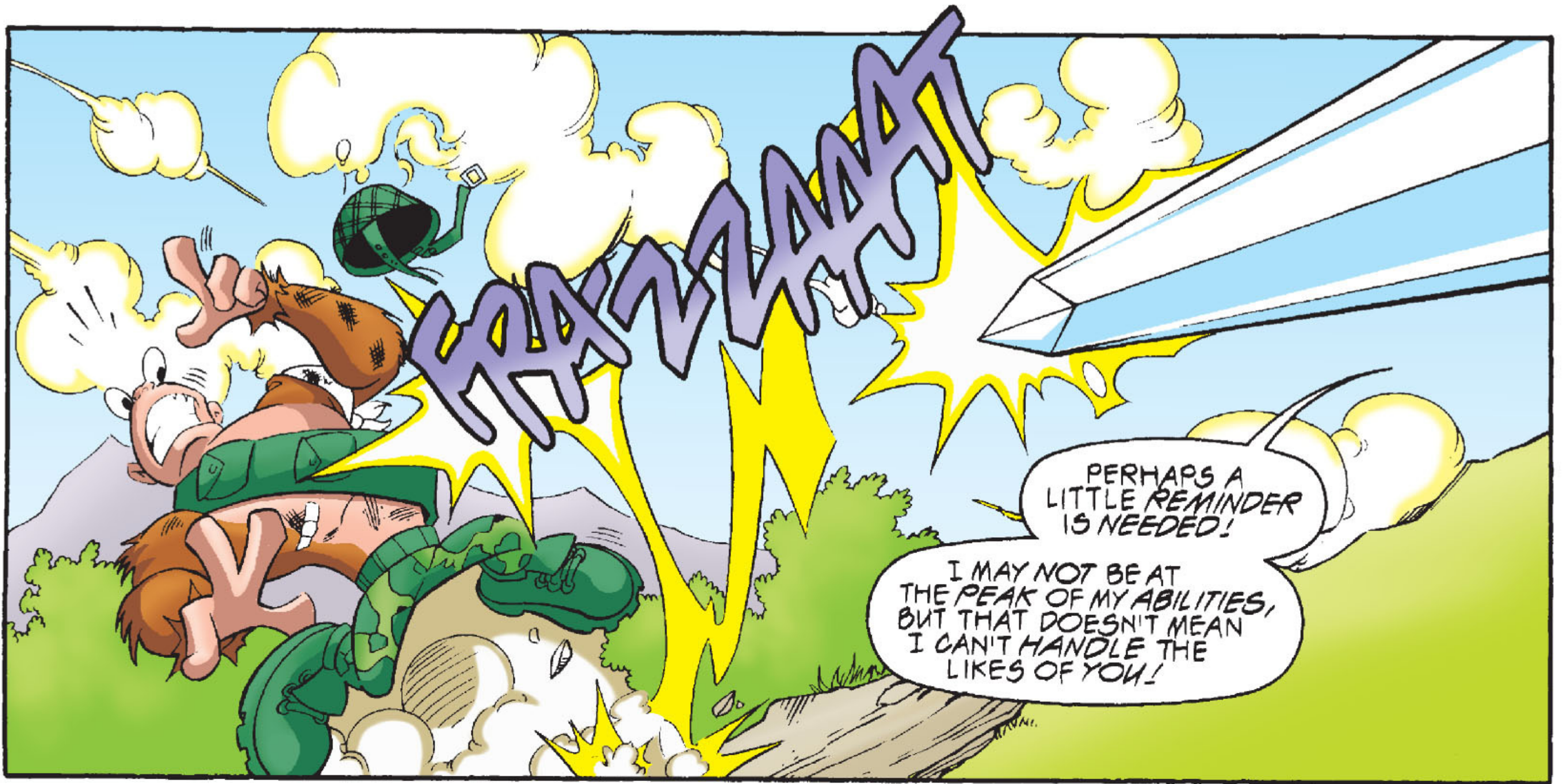
TAILS AND BUNNIE MIGHT HAVE THEIR OWN SPECIAL ABILITIES--





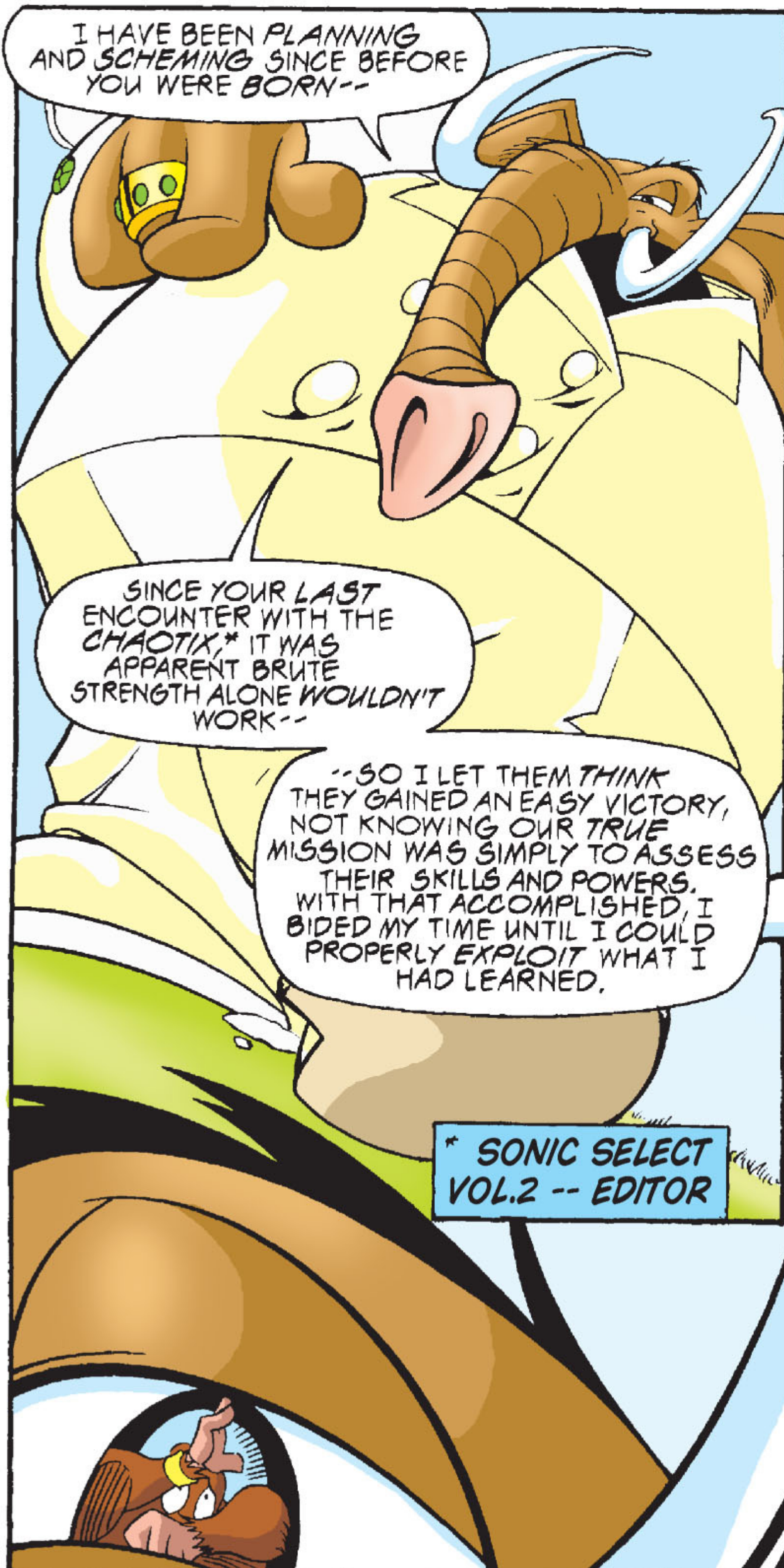






PERHAPS A
LITTLE REMINDER
IS NEEDED!

I MAY NOT BE AT
THE PEAK OF MY ABILITIES,
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN
I CAN'T HANDLE THE
LIKES OF YOU!

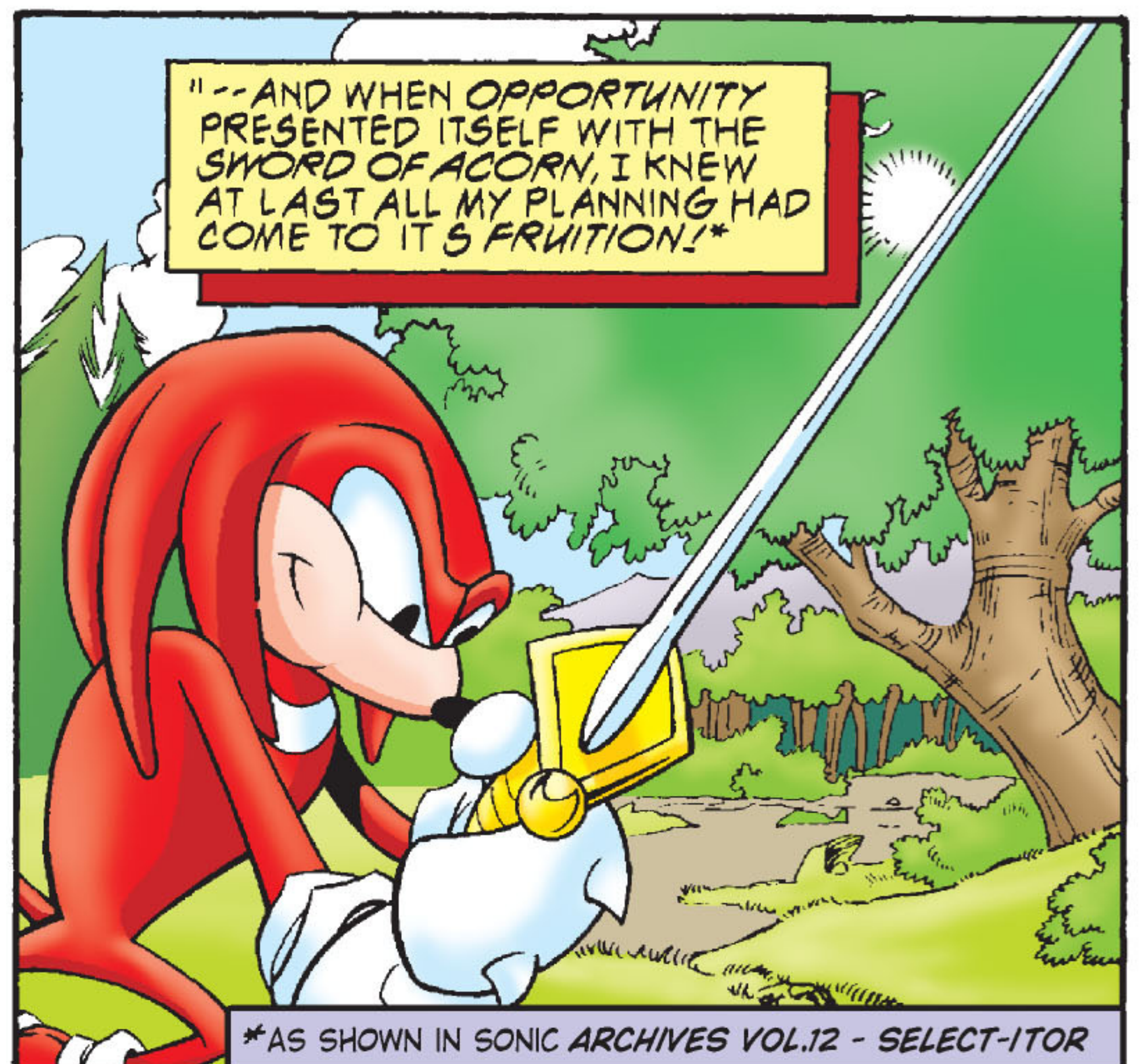


I HAVE BEEN PLANNING
AND SCHEMING SINCE BEFORE
YOU WERE BORN--

SINCE YOUR LAST
ENCOUNTER WITH THE
CHAOTIX,* IT WAS
APPARENT BRUTE
STRENGTH ALONE WOULDN'T
WORK--

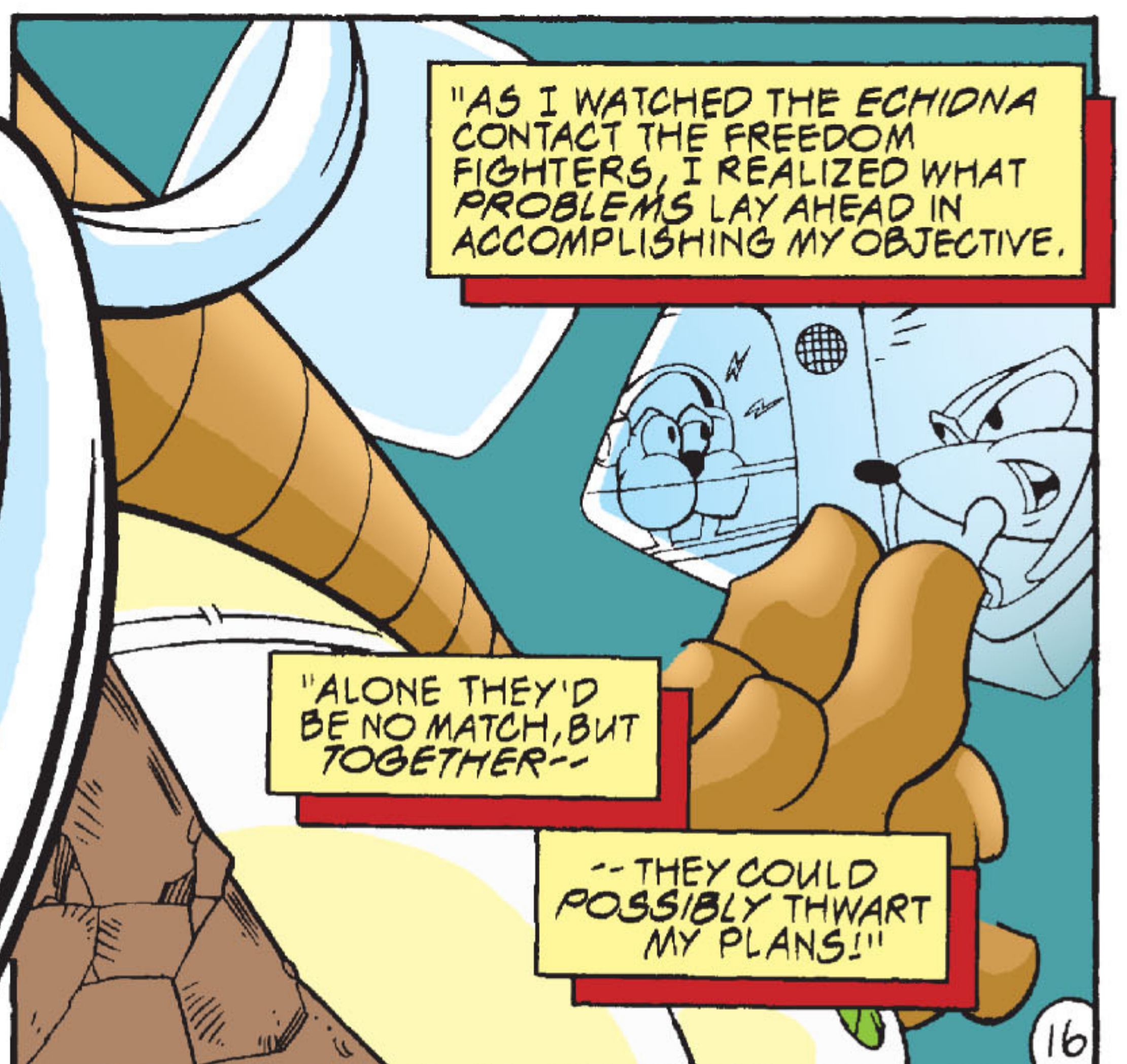
--SO I LET THEM THINK
THEY GAINED AN EASY VICTORY,
NOT KNOWING OUR TRUE
MISSION WAS SIMPLY TO ASSESS
THEIR SKILLS AND POWERS.
WITH THAT ACCOMPLISHED, I
BID MY TIME UNTIL I COULD
PROPERLY EXPLOIT WHAT I
HAD LEARNED.

* SONIC SELECT
VOL.2 -- EDITOR



"--AND WHEN OPPORTUNITY
PRESENTED ITSELF WITH THE
SWORD OF ACORN, I KNEW
AT LAST ALL MY PLANNING HAD
COME TO ITS FRUITION!*

*AS SHOWN IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.12 - SELECT-ITOR



"AS I WATCHED THE ECHIDNA
CONTACT THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS, I REALIZED WHAT
PROBLEMS LAY AHEAD IN
ACCOMPLISHING MY OBJECTIVE.

"ALONE THEY'D
BE NO MATCH, BUT
TOGETHER--

-- THEY COULD
POSSIBLY THWART
MY PLANS!"

"THAT'S WHY I SEIZED THE MOMENT
MAKING USE OF MY VAST PSYCHIC
ABILITIES TO ALTER THE REALITIES
OF MY UNWITTING PAWNS..."

"WHAT NEITHER THE WALRUS
OR ECHIDNA REALIZED WAS
THAT THEY WERE WATCHING
IMAGES GENERATED THROUGH
MY THOUGHTWAVES..."

I CONTROL
THE HORIZONTAL--
I CONTROL THE
VERTICAL--

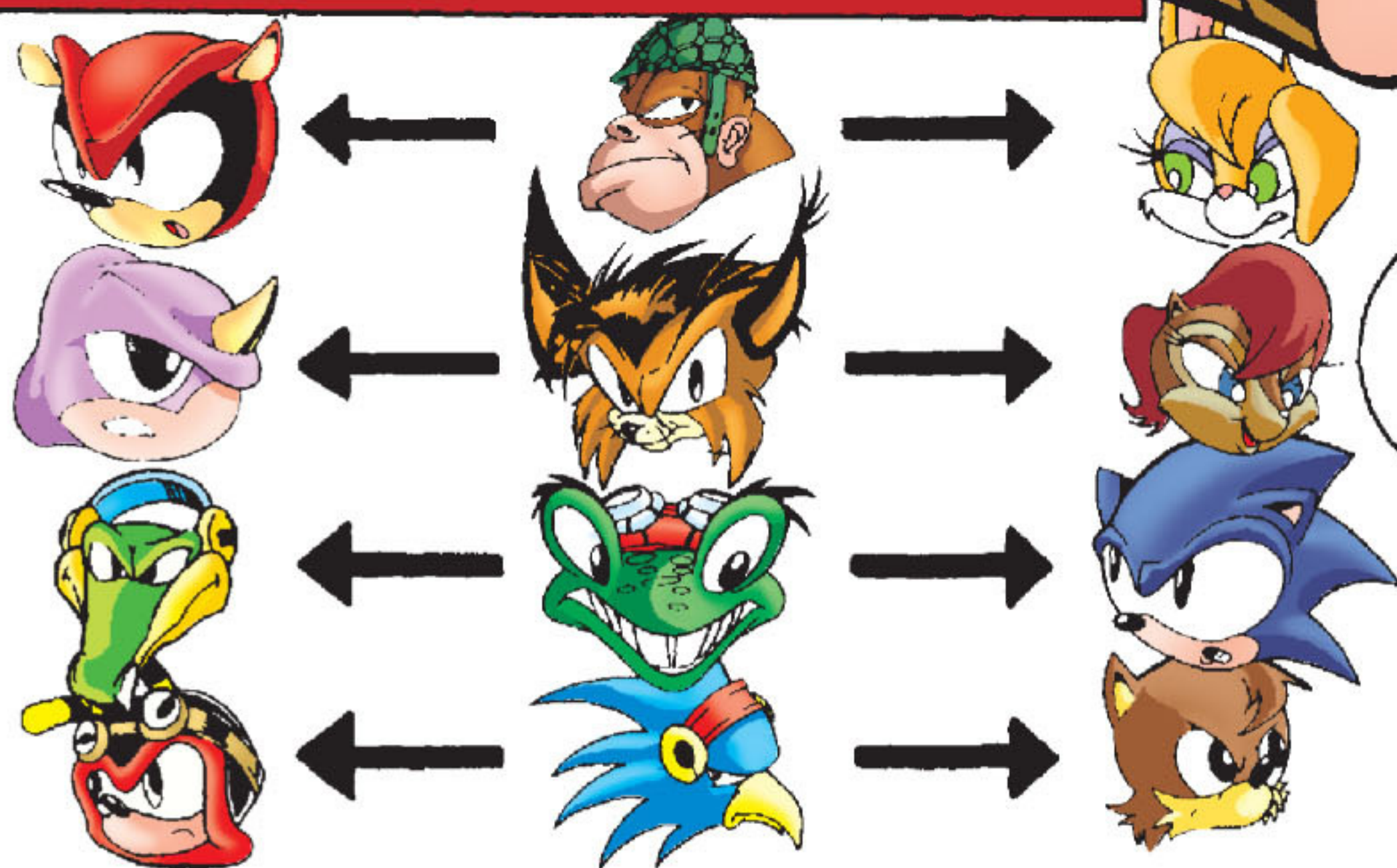
--AND THE ISLAND'S
UNDER SIEGE AGAIN, SO
FOR NOW...WE'RE KEEPING
THE SWORD!

HOLD FAST!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY
TO HELP!

...AND YOU'VE TAKEN
TOO LONG TO RETURN
THE SWORD--WE'RE
COMING FOR IT AND
YOU!

WHAT ARE
YOU JABBERING
ABOUT?

"THERE WAS STILL DANGER THAT COOLER
HEADS WOULD PREVAIL, SO I CREATED THE
ILLUSION OF THE FEARSOME FOURSOME
AS MEMBERS OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS
AND THE CHAOTIX, IN ORDER TO FAN THE
FLAMES OF MISTRUST BETWEEN THE
OPPOSING SIDES..."

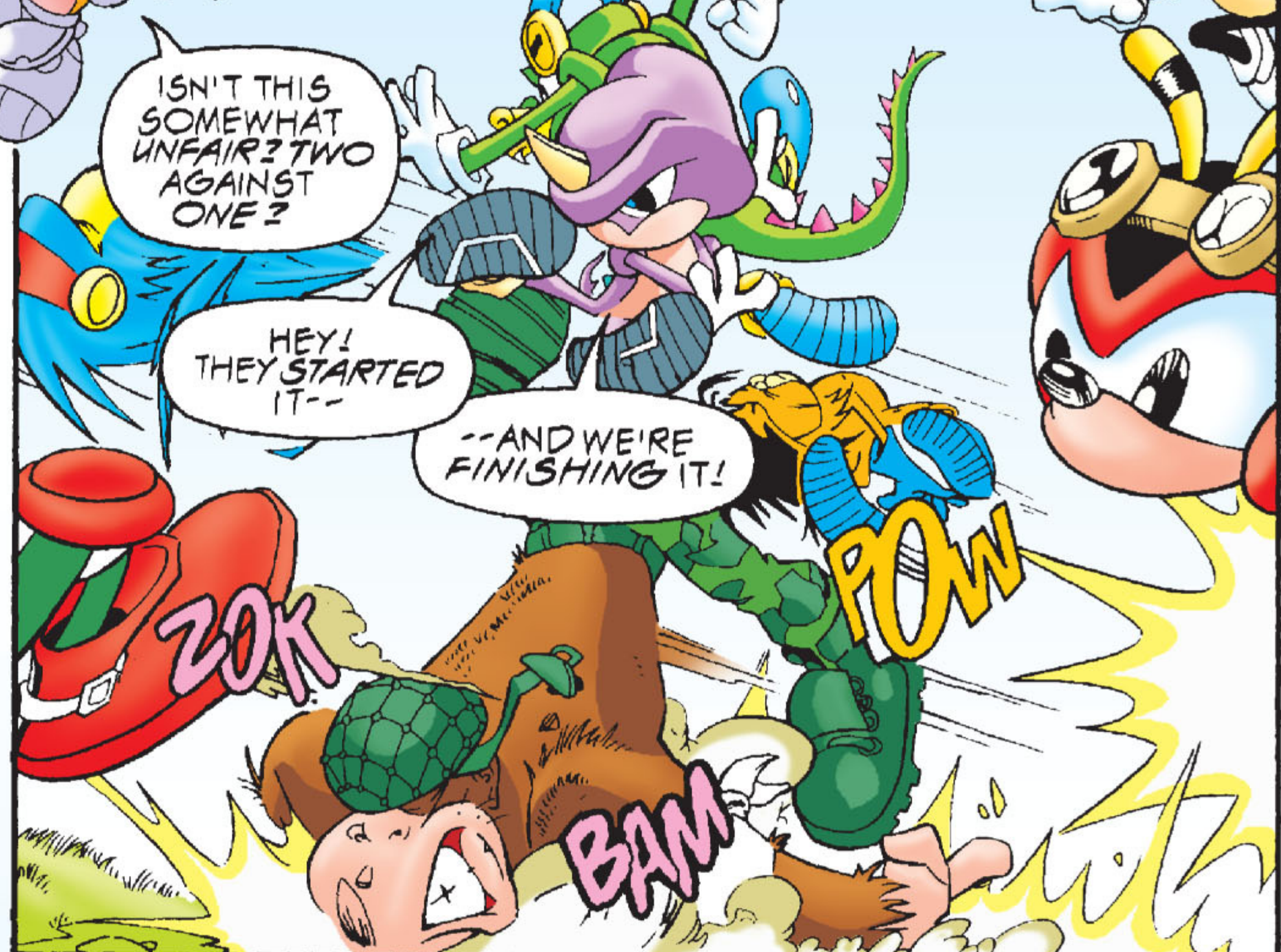
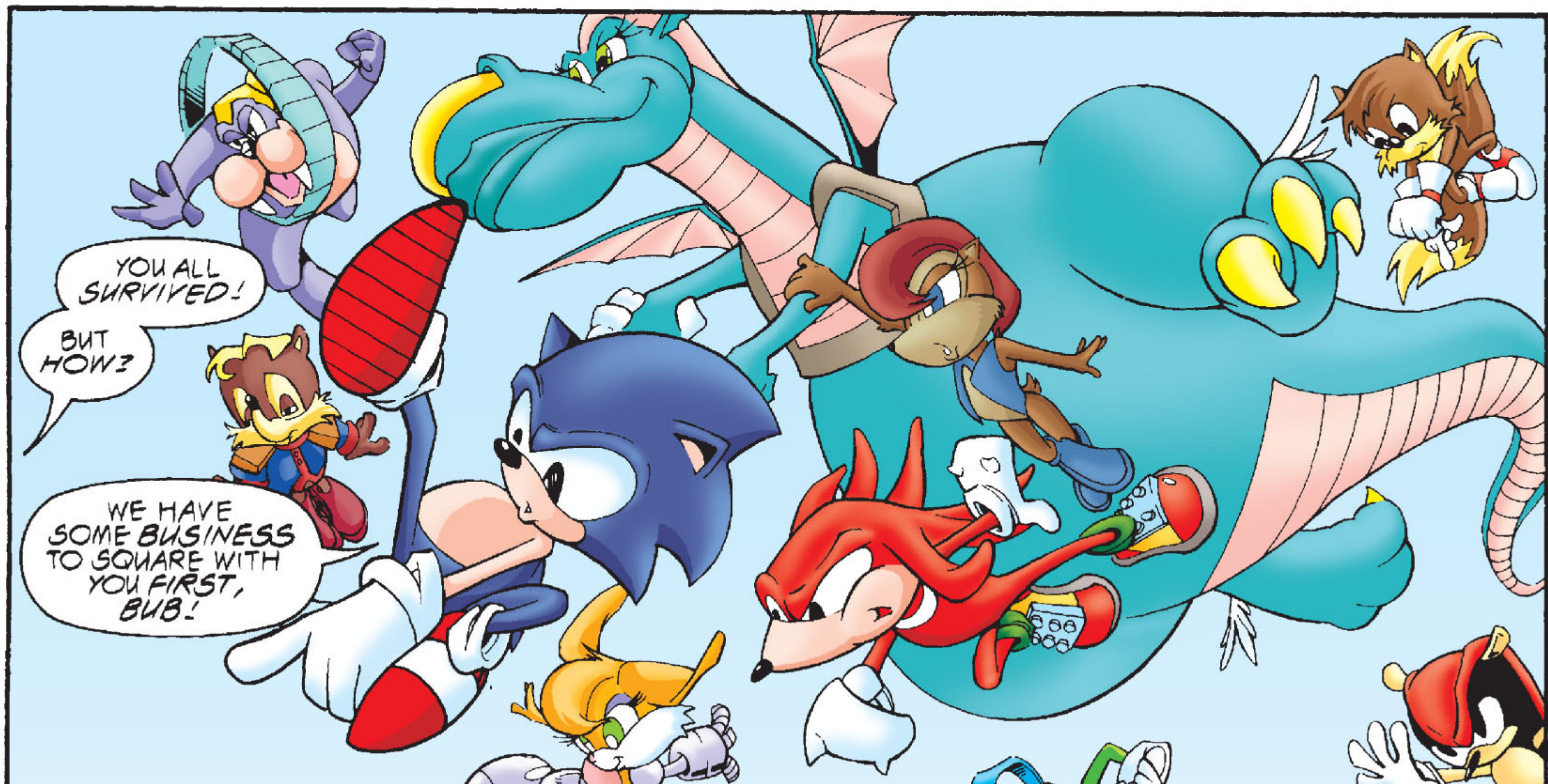


"HAVING BAITED THE HEDGEHOG AND
FRIENDS, WE THEN MADE THE CHAOTIX
BELIEVE THE WORST CONCERNING THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS--"

--ALLOWING US
TO WATCH FROM THE
SIDELINES WHILE
THEY BATTLED AMONGST
THEMSELVES!

YEP! THAT
WAS QUITE
THE PLAN,
MAN!

THAT
VOICE--!





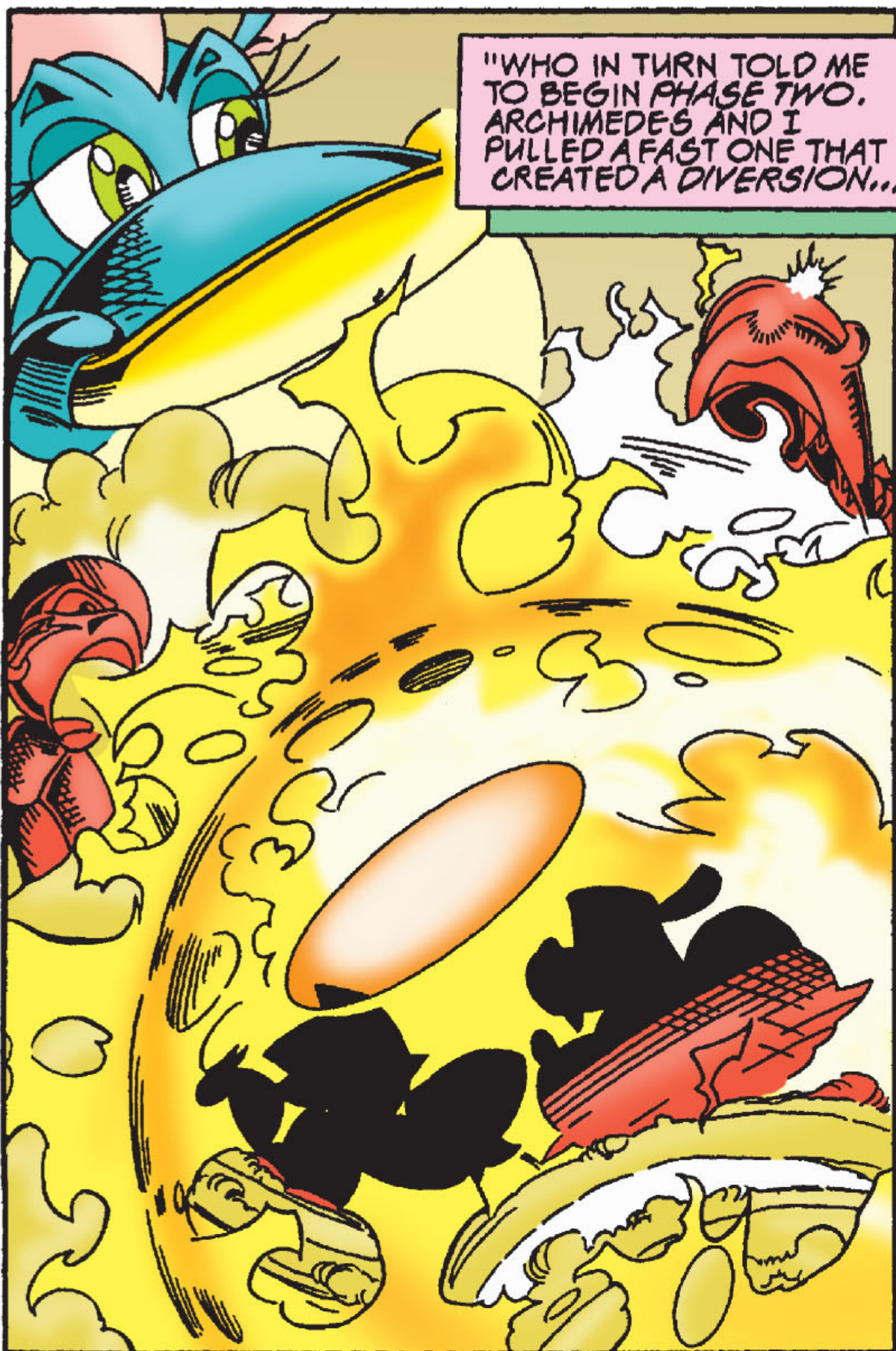
"YOU SAID IT YOURSELF--
'COOLER HEADS MIGHT
PREVAIL!' ARCHIMEDES
AND I KNEW SOMETHING
STUNK HERE..."

"...AND BELIEVING THE
REAL ENEMY TO BE
WATCHING, WE PUT ON
A LITTLE PERFORMANCE
TO COVER OUR PLAN!"



"USING POWERS
YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T
KNOW ARCHIMEDES
HAS*, HE COVERTLY
CONTACTED CHARMY
TO BEGIN PHASE
ONE..."

*TELEPATHY MAYBE?-- EDITOR



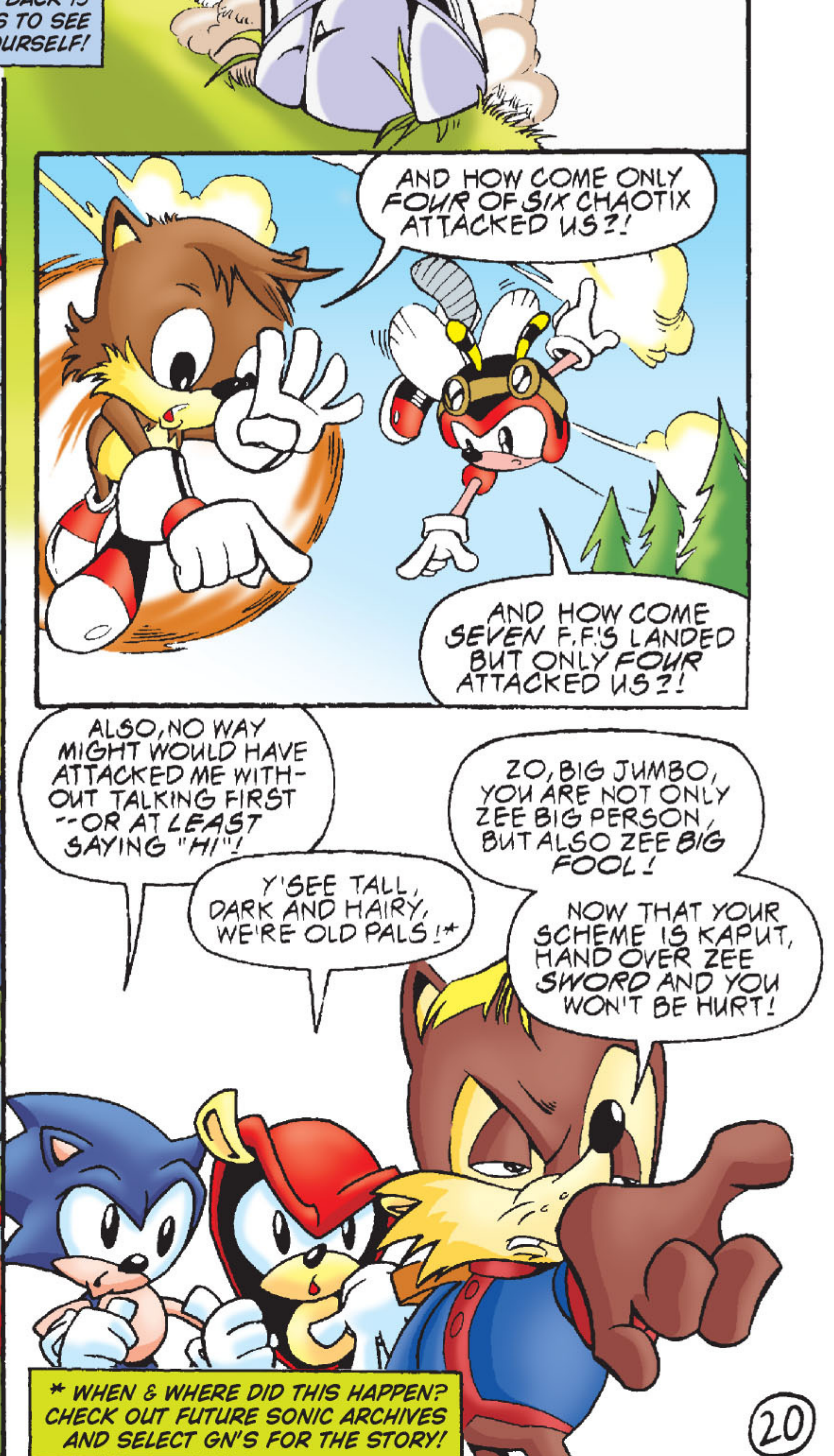
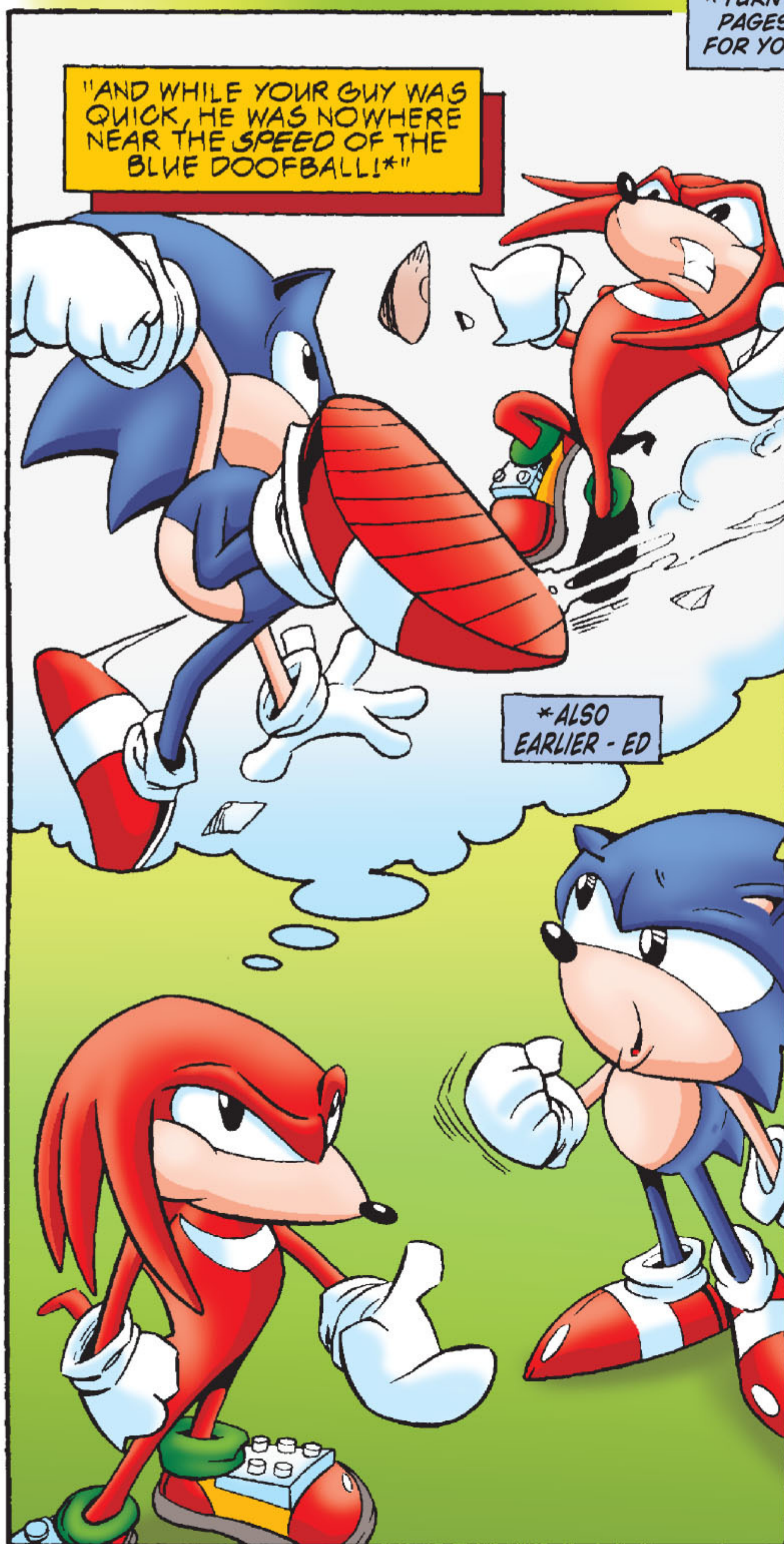
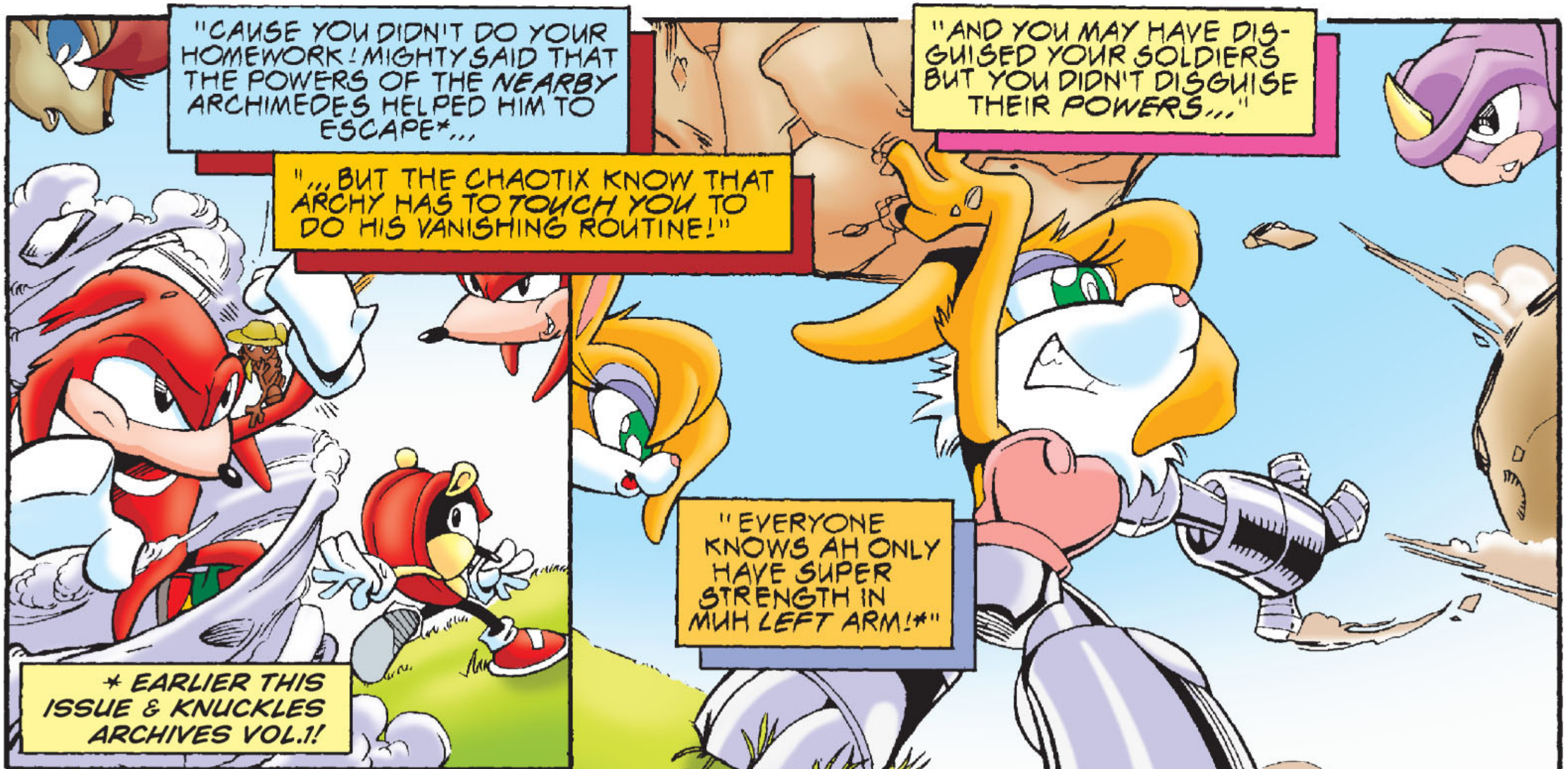
"WHO IN TURN TOLD ME
TO BEGIN PHASE TWO.
ARCHIMEDES AND I
PULLED A FAST ONE THAT
CREATED A DIVERSION..."

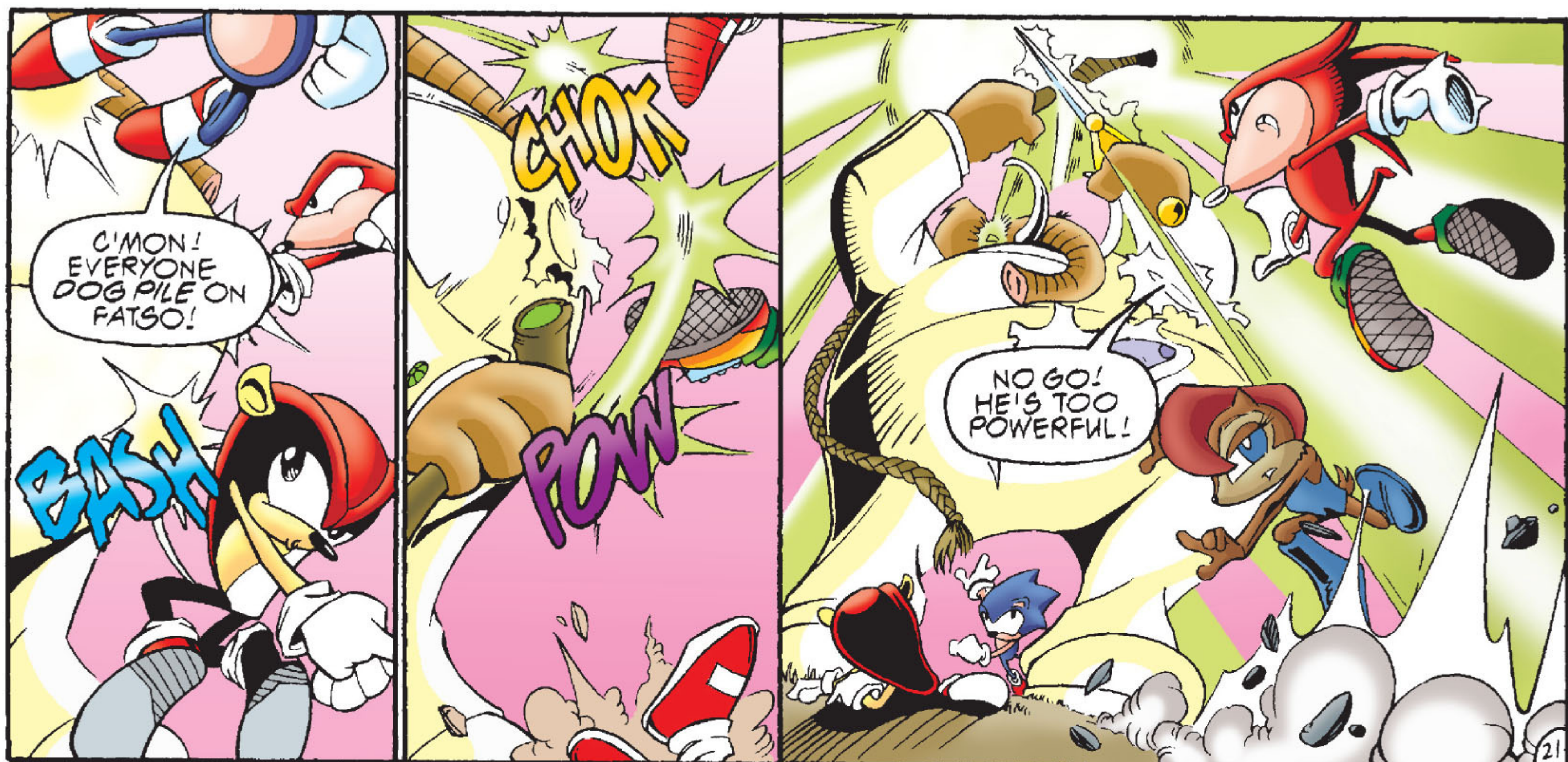
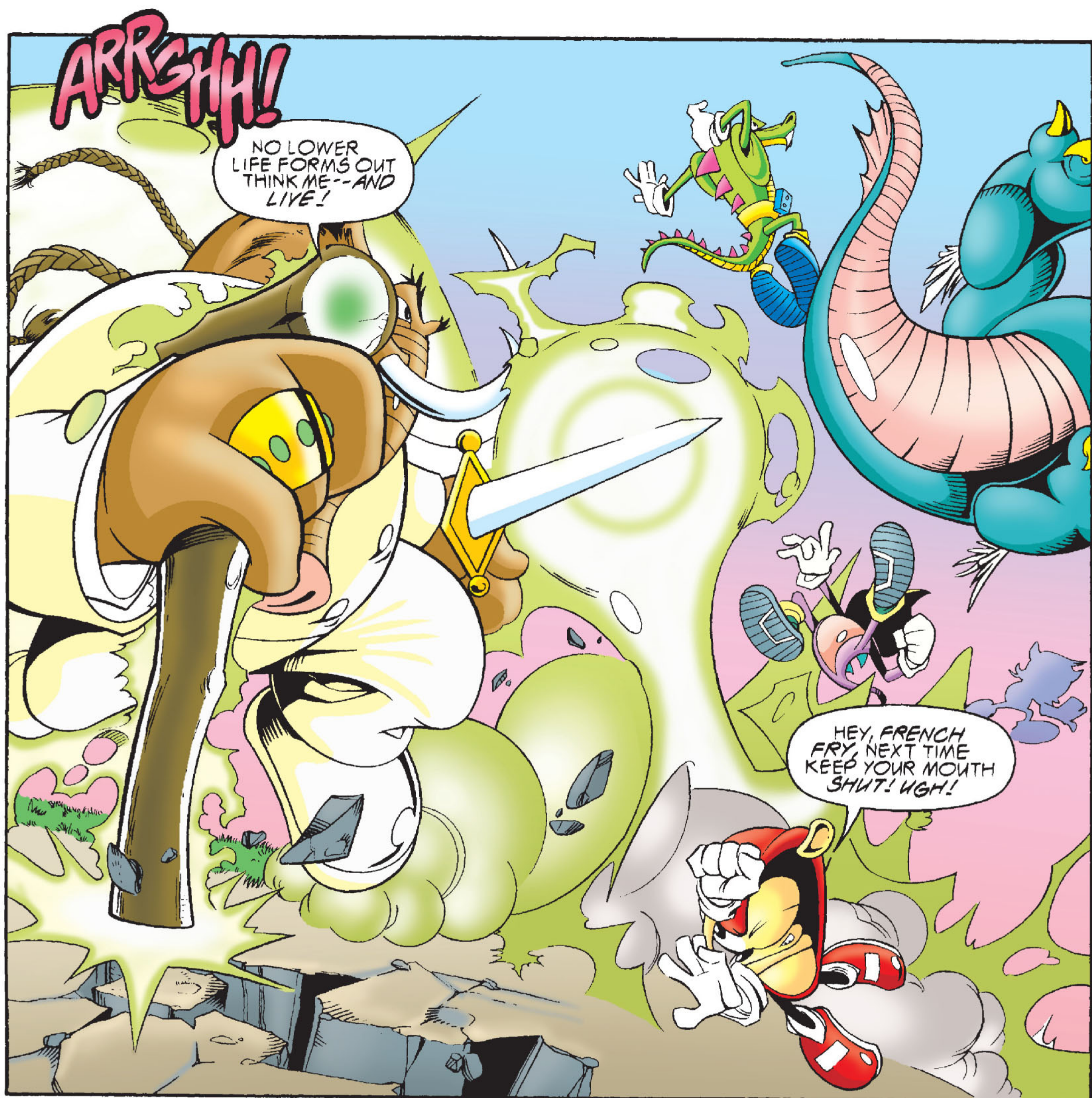


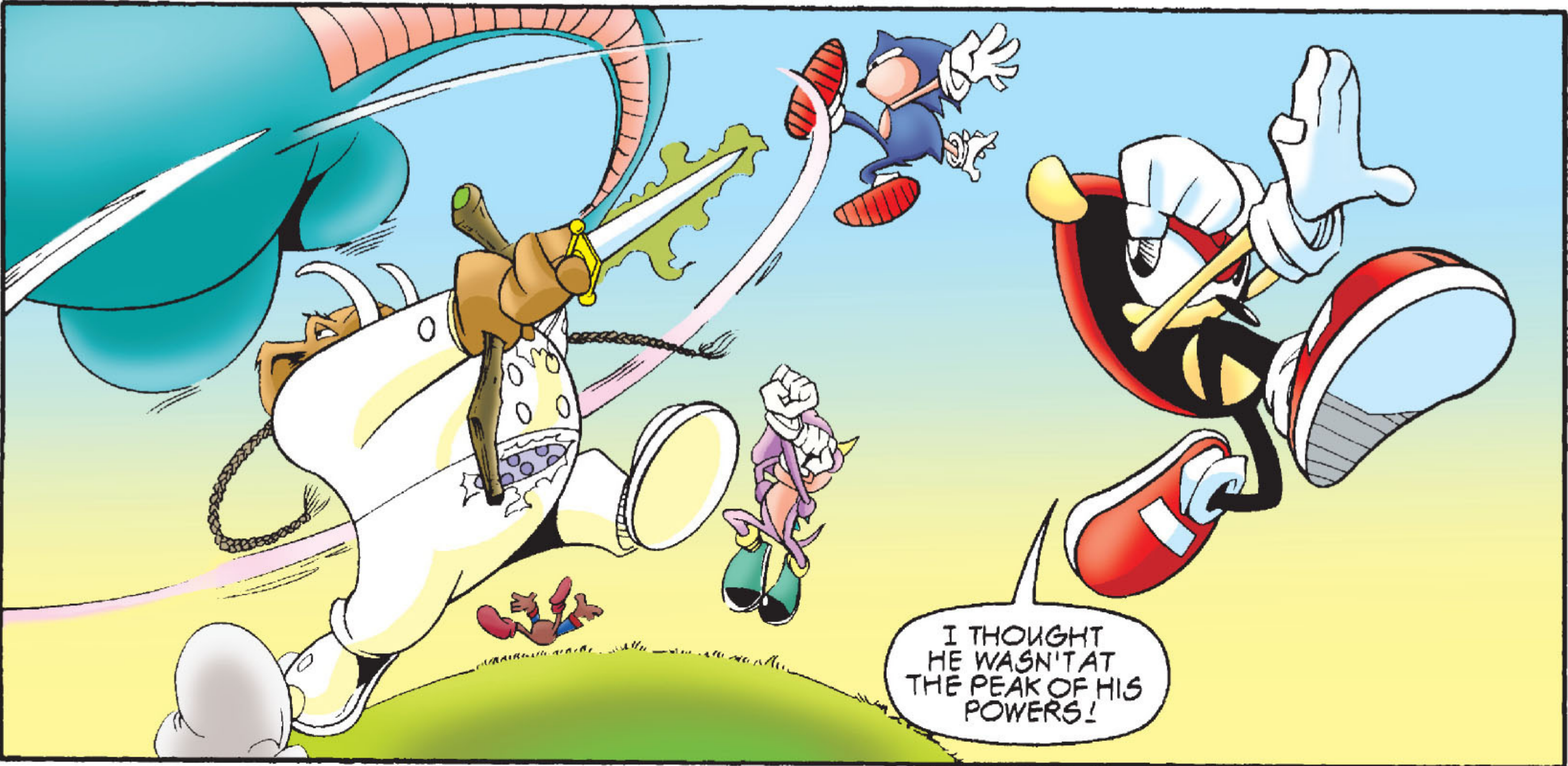
AND WHILE THE
KEWL FLAMES MADE
US LOOK LIKE WE
WERE TAKIN' THE
HEAT, ARCHY TELE-
PORTED US TO
SAFETY...

"...WHICH GAVE US
TIME TO FIGURE OUT
BOTH OUR GANGS WERE
TAKING THE RAP FOR
YOUR HOMIES!"

AND HOW IS
IT YOU CAME UPON
THAT BRIEF FLASH OF
BRILLIANCE?







* CHECK OUT MATHIAS POE IS SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.12 - EDITOR

CRASH

WOW! BRING
TWO CHAOS EMERALDS
TOGETHER...

AND
THAT'S WHAT
YOU GET...
UTTER
CHAOS!

PRETTY SMART--
TAKING A CHANCE
ONE CHAOS EMERALD
MIGHT BLOW UP
ANOTHER!

IT WAS A
DESPERATE
GAMBLE AT
BEST!

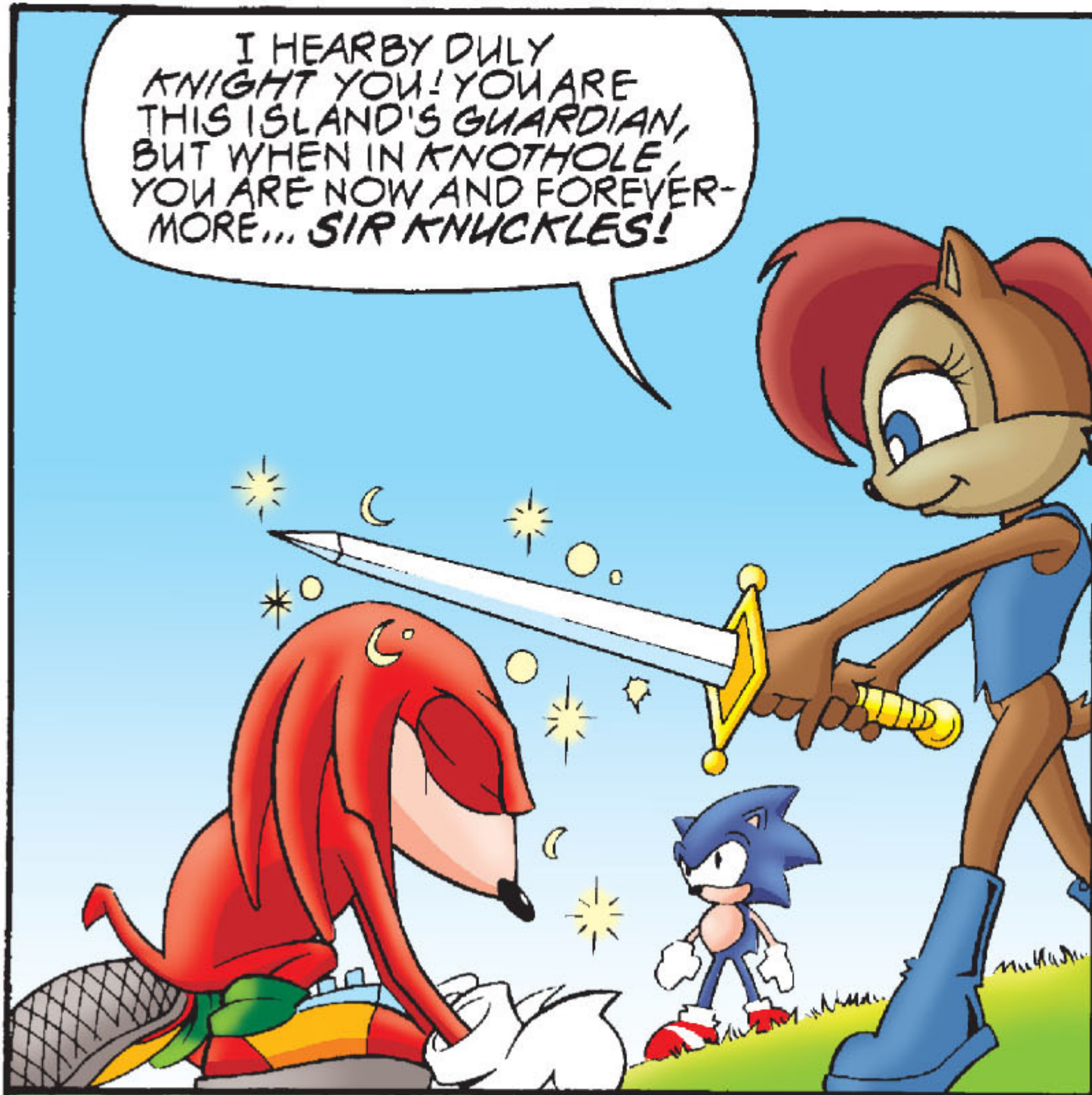
ALRIGHT!
HE BLEW HIM
OUT OF THE
UNIVERSE!

DON'T SWEAT
IT, SHORTY, IT PAID
OFF!

AND IT
DID LEAVE
US WITH
THE SWORD,
SO...

AS PER MY
SOLEMN VOW, I
HUMBLY MAKE
GOOD MY
PROMISE!

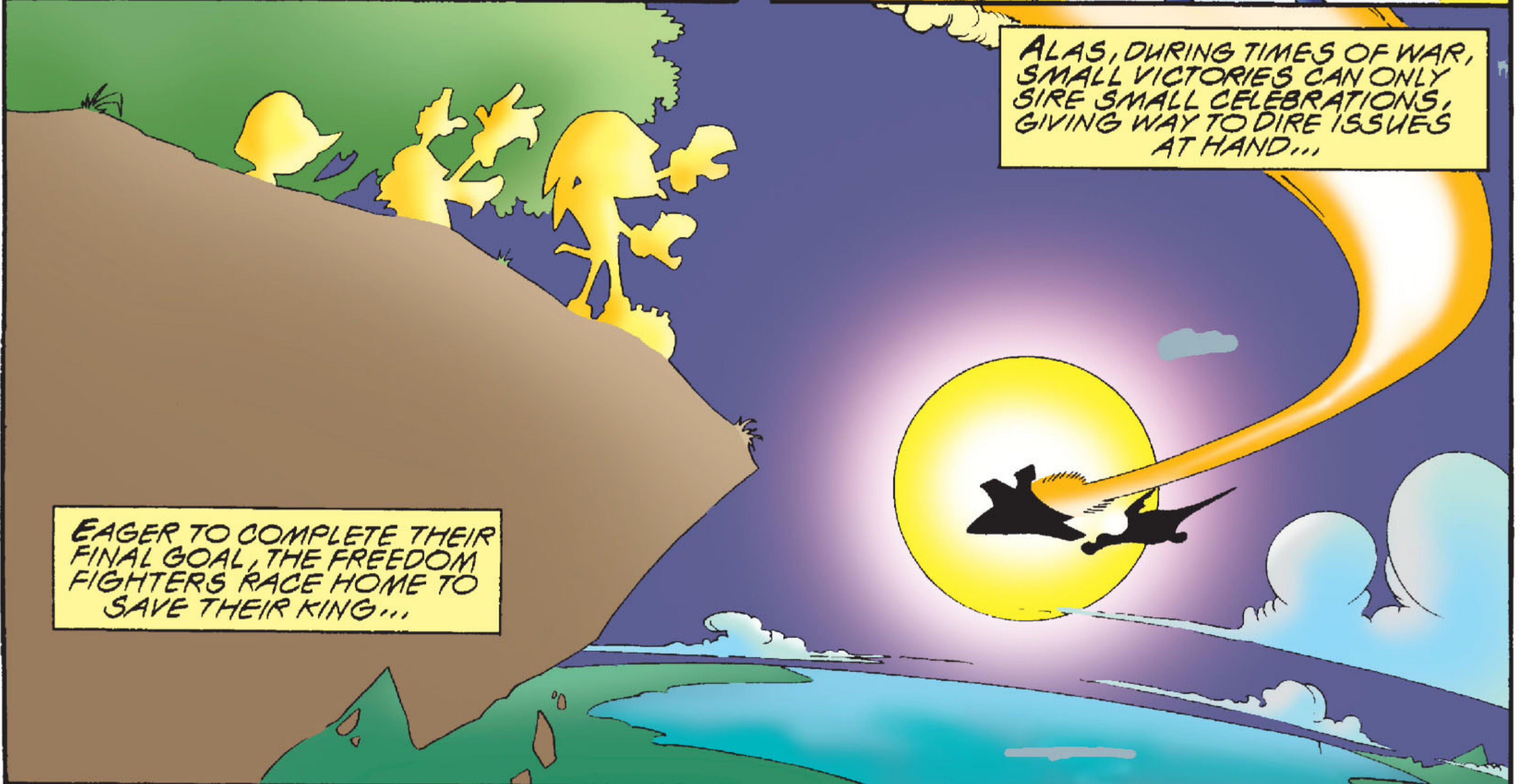
AND FOR YOUR
COURAGE AND FORTI-
TUDE ON BEHALF OF
THE REALM...



I HEARBY DULY
KNIGHT YOU! YOU ARE
THIS ISLAND'S GUARDIAN,
BUT WHEN IN KNOTHOLE,
YOU ARE NOW AND FOREVER-
MORE... SIR KNUCKLES!



HIP HIP
HOORAY!



EAGER TO COMPLETE THEIR
FINAL GOAL, THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS RACE HOME TO
SAVE THEIR KING...

ALAS, DURING TIMES OF WAR,
SMALL VICTORIES CAN ONLY
SIRE SMALL CELEBRATIONS,
GIVING WAY TO DIRE ISSUES
AT HAND...

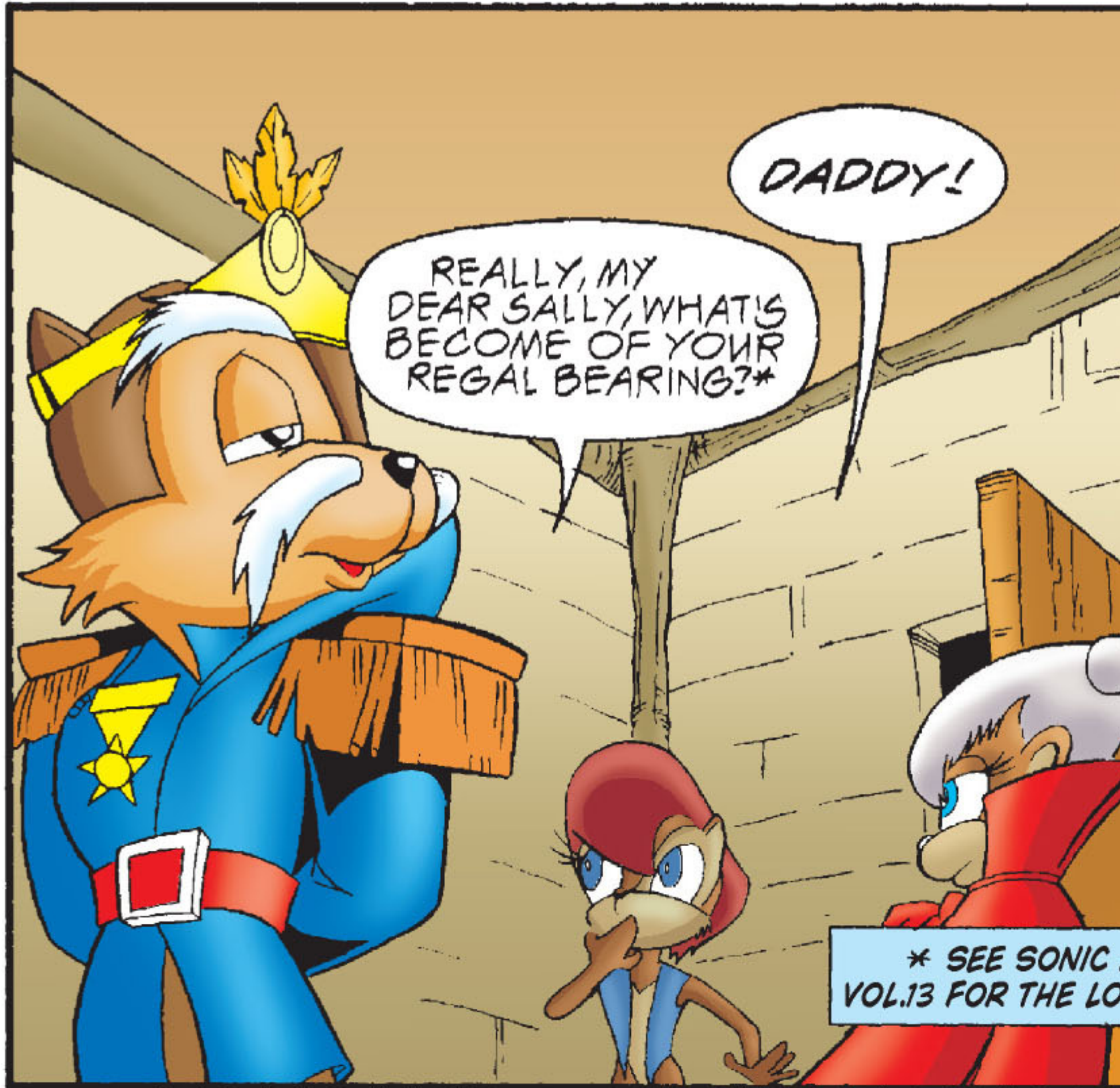


...NEVER SUSPECTING THAT
WHICH AWAITS THEM IN
THEIR SECRET SANCTUARY!

ROTOR, CONTACT UNCLE
CHUCK! WITH HIS HELP,
I'M SURE WE CAN FINALLY
RETRIEVE THE CROWN OF
ACORNS! I'LL BEGIN MY RE-
SEARCH IN MY HUT WITH
NICOLE.



PRINCESS
SALLY...!
COME
QUICK,
CHILD!

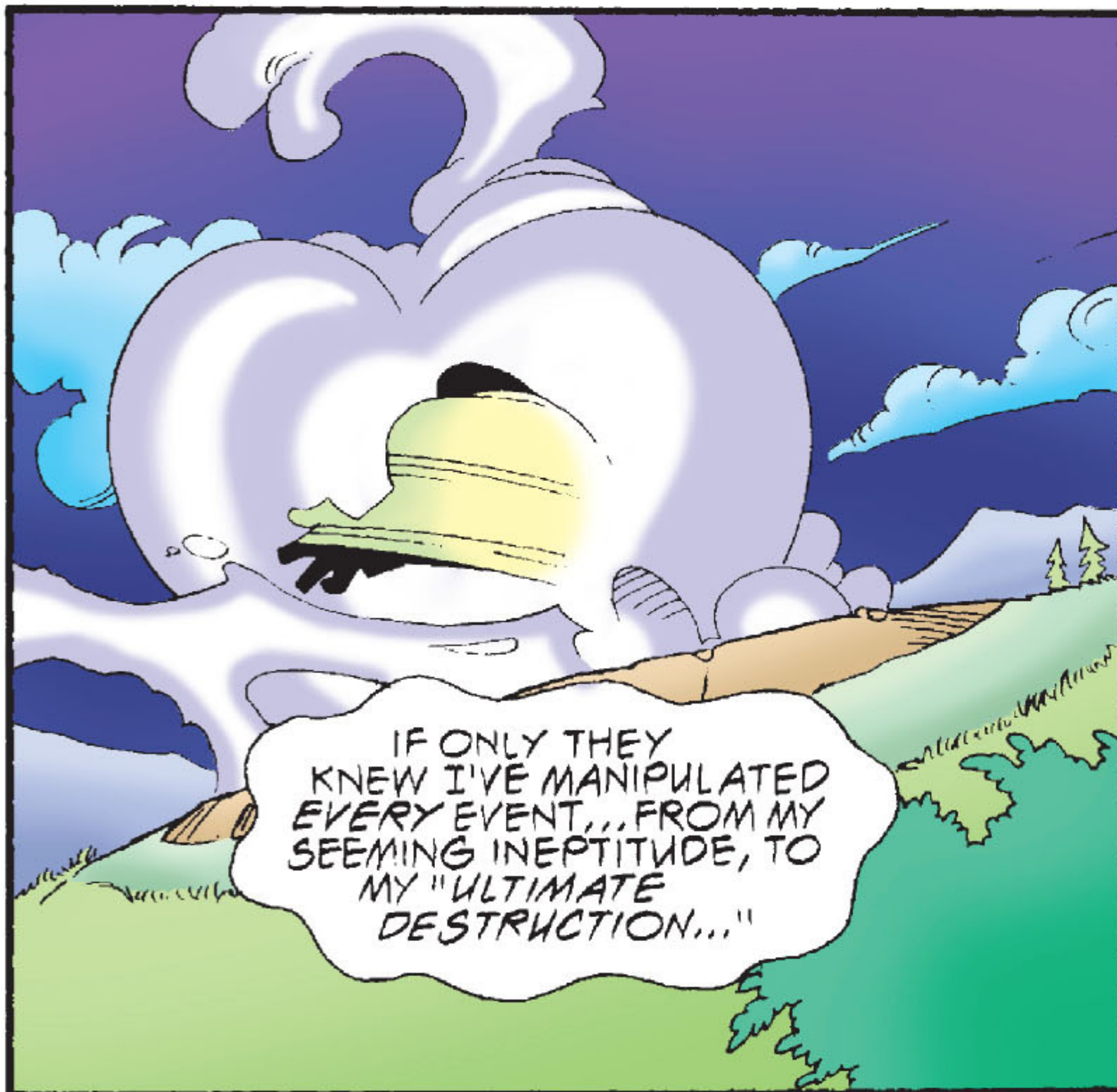


EPILOGUE:

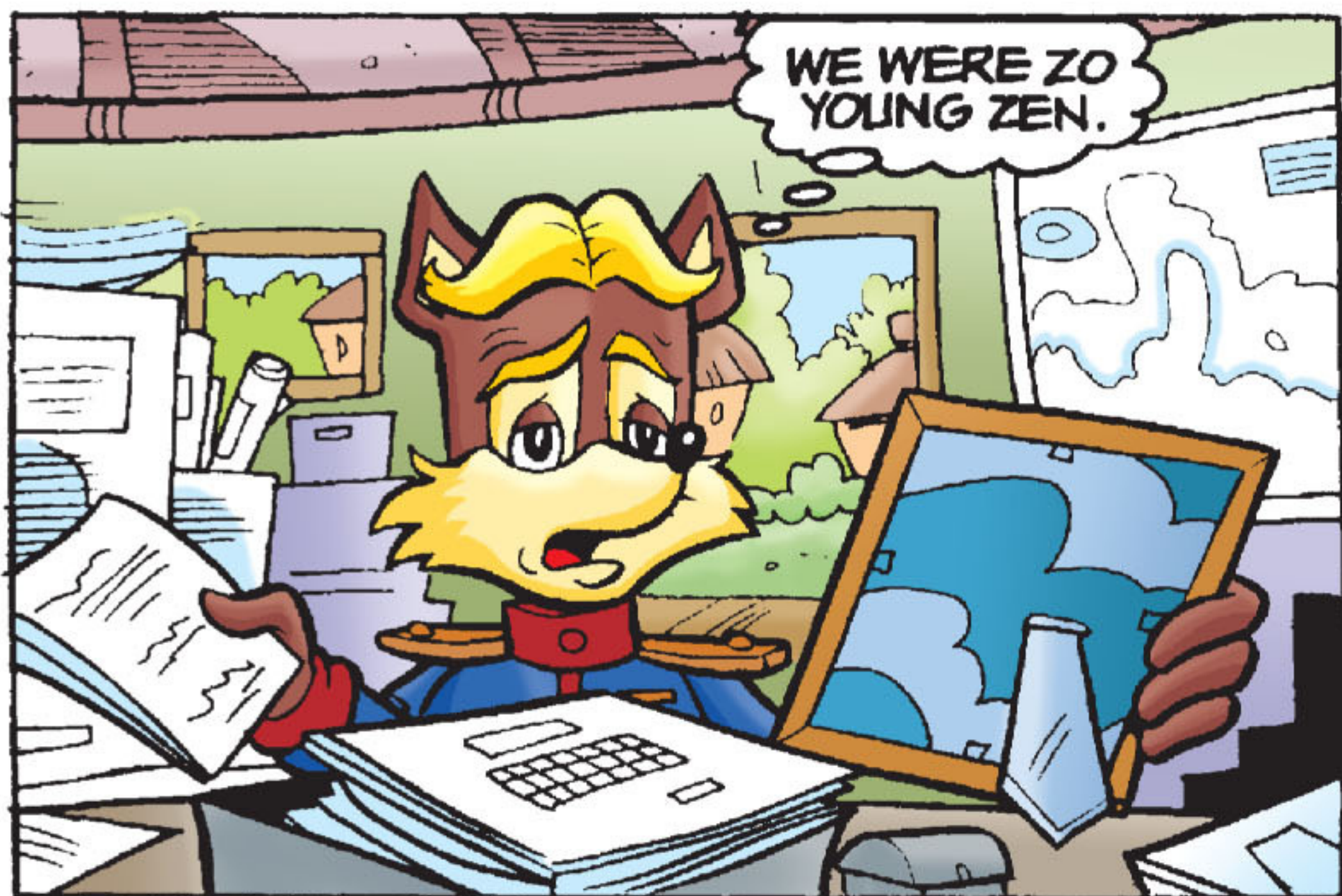
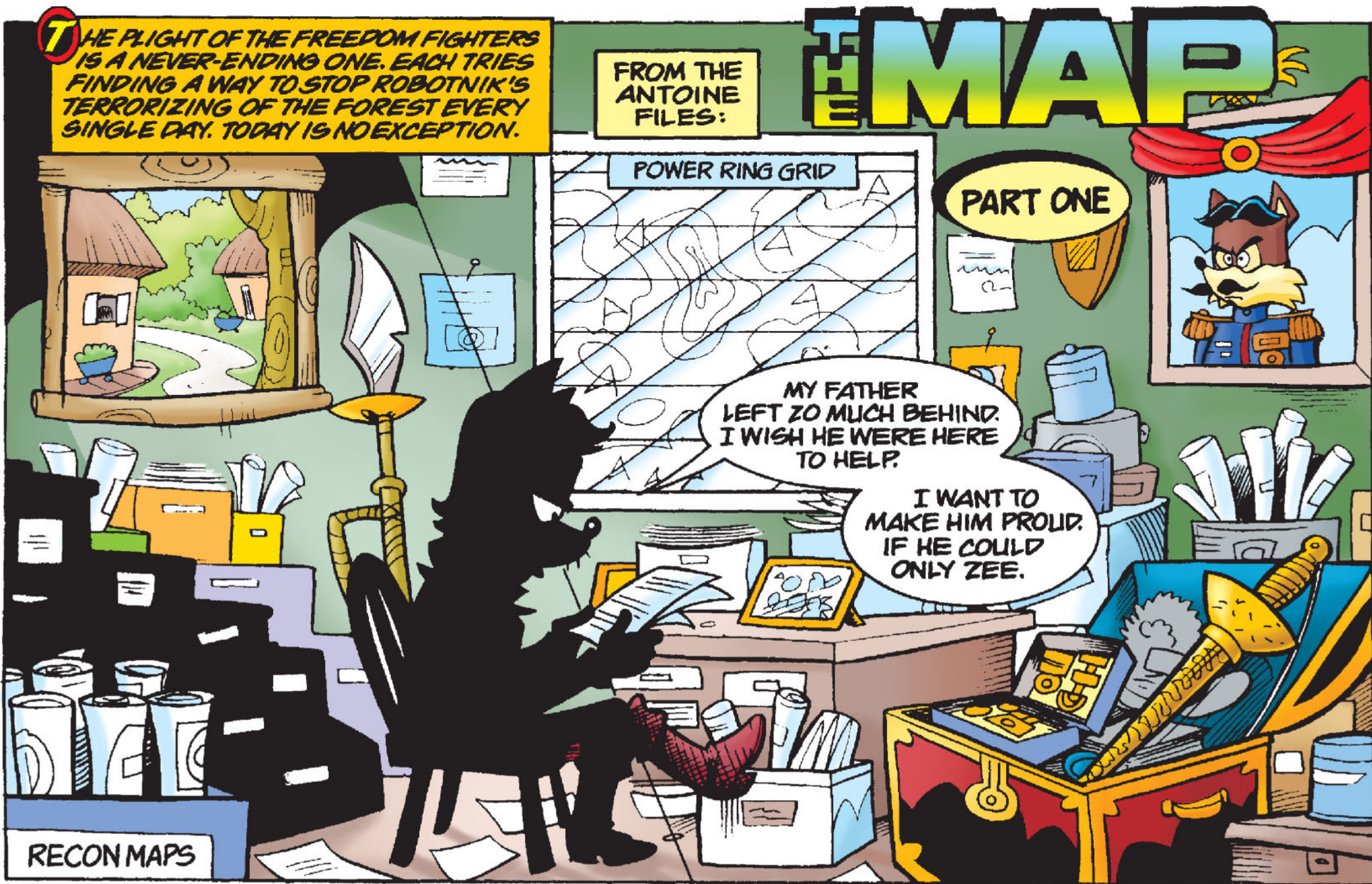
AND WHILE A RAY OF HOPE SEEMS TO EMIT FROM THAT FORMER REALM, IT MAY JUST BE CLOUDED BY THE SWIRLING MISTS OF AN UNKNOWN MYSTERIOUS REALM...

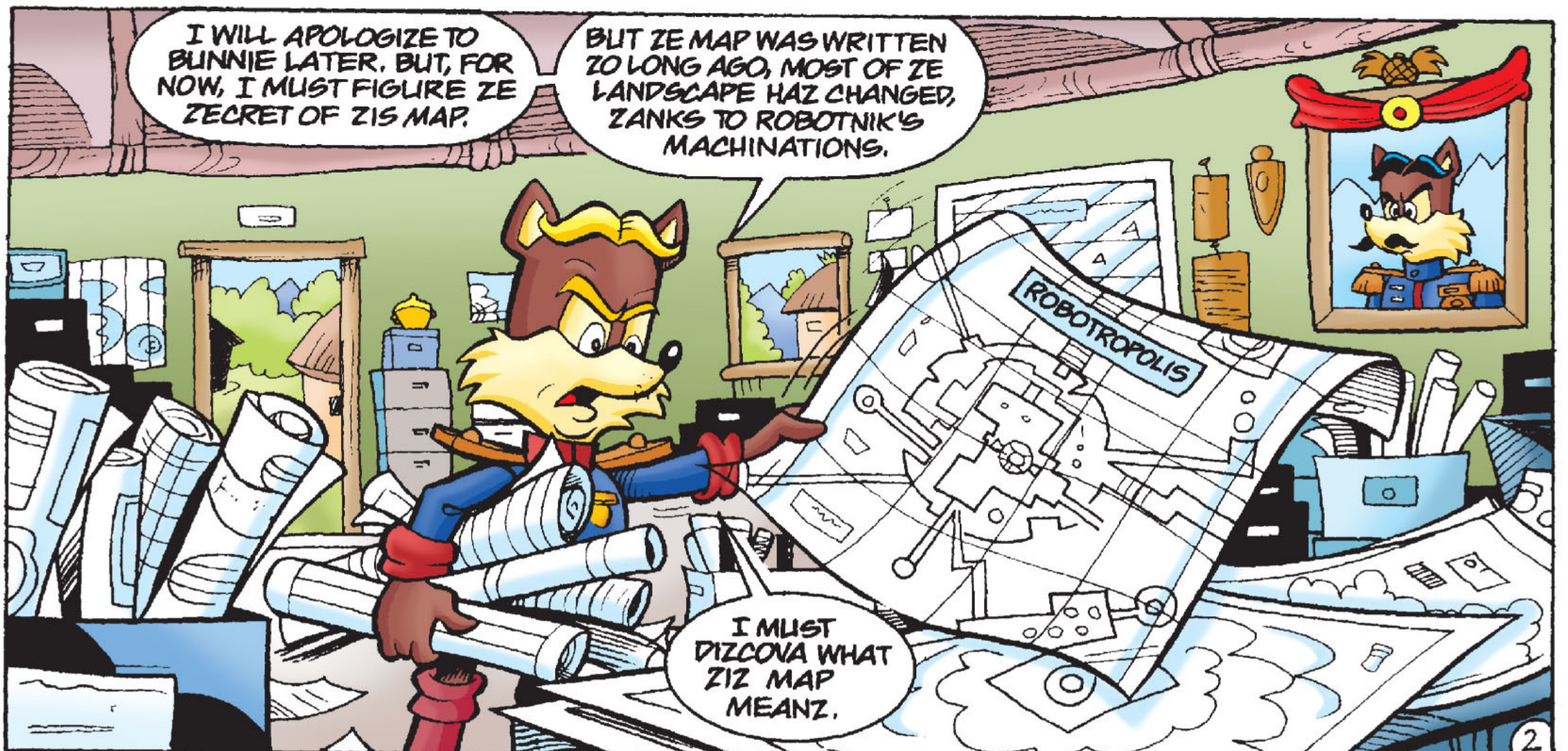
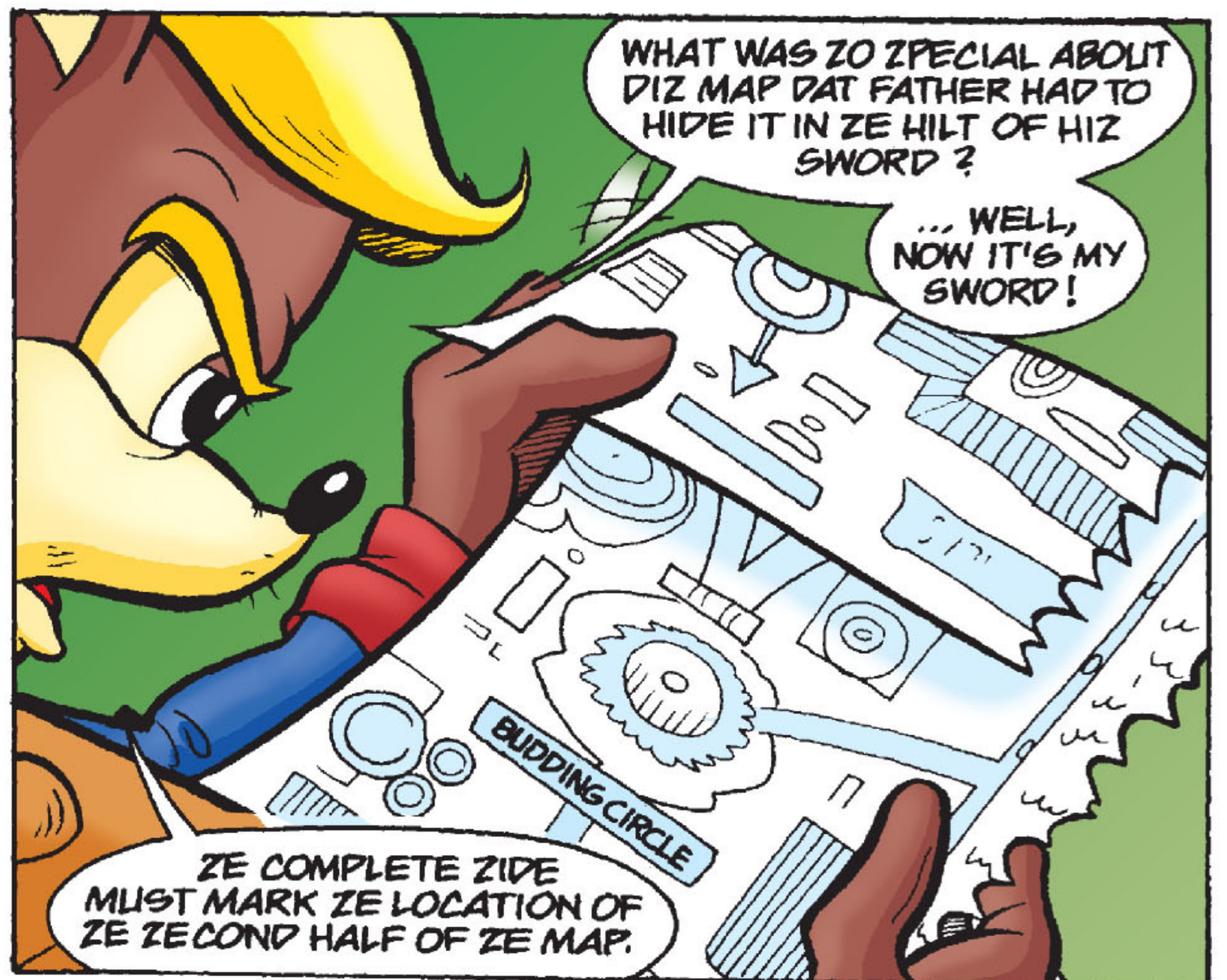
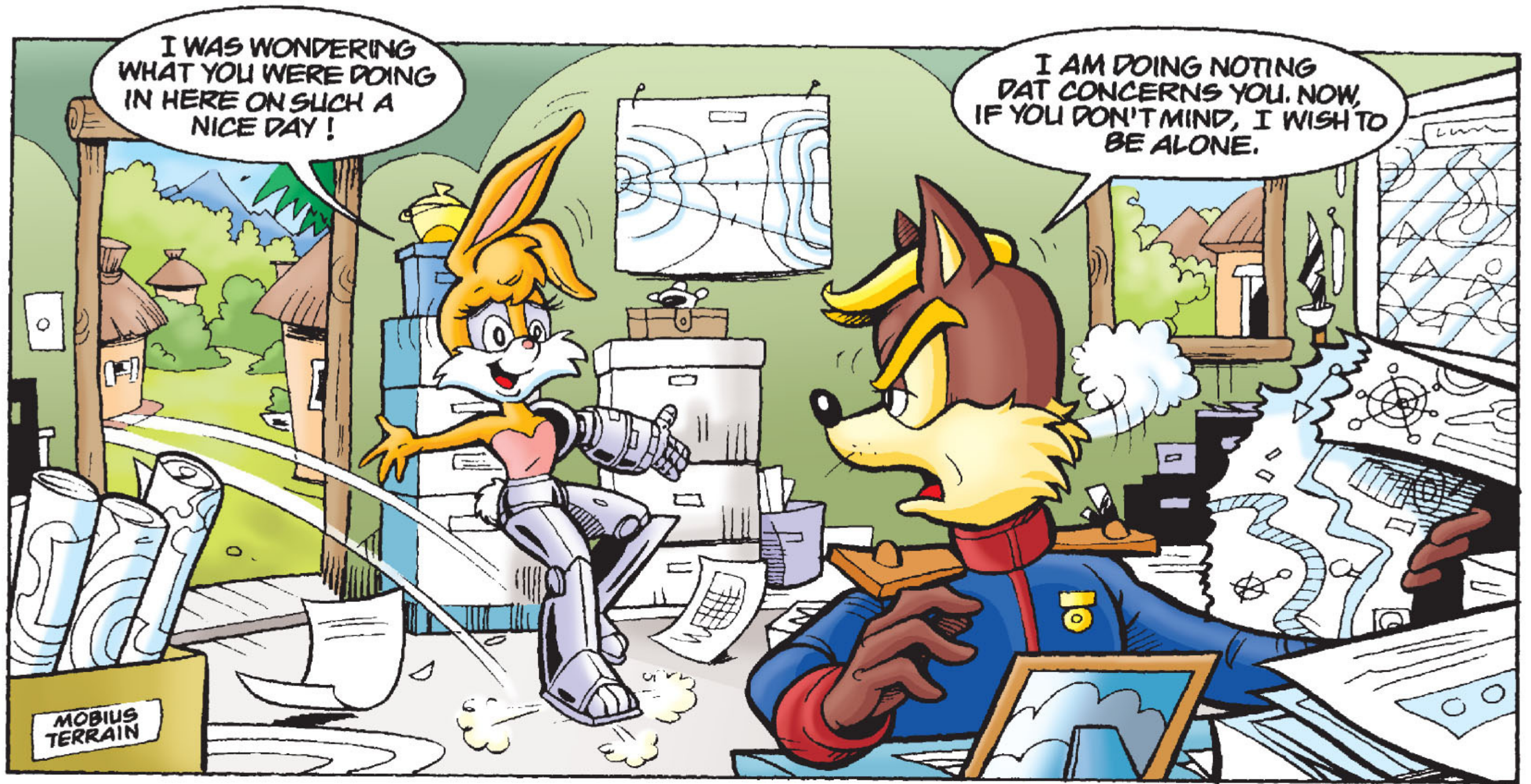
WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE... TO THINK THEY COULD OUT-WIT ME...

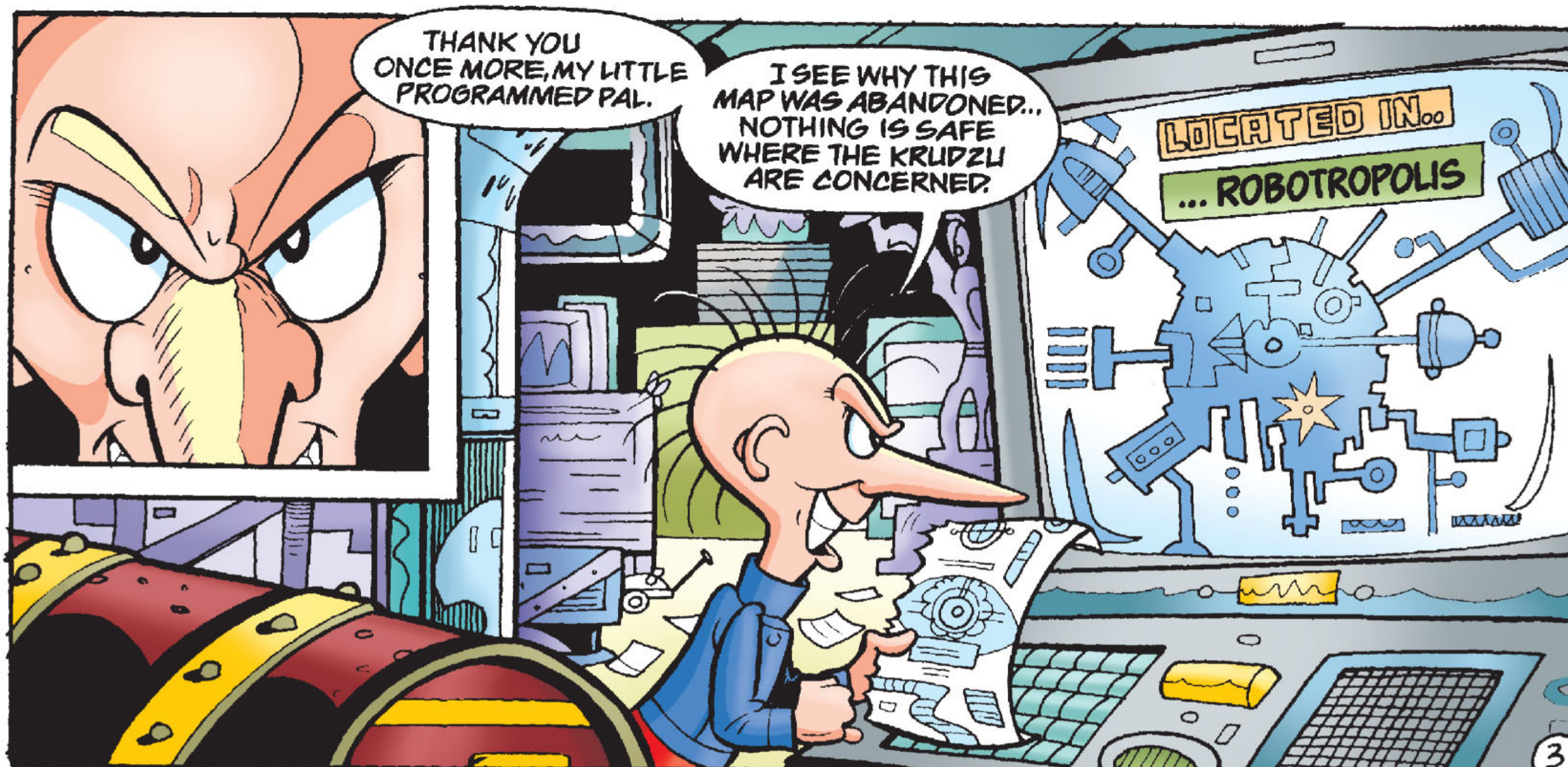
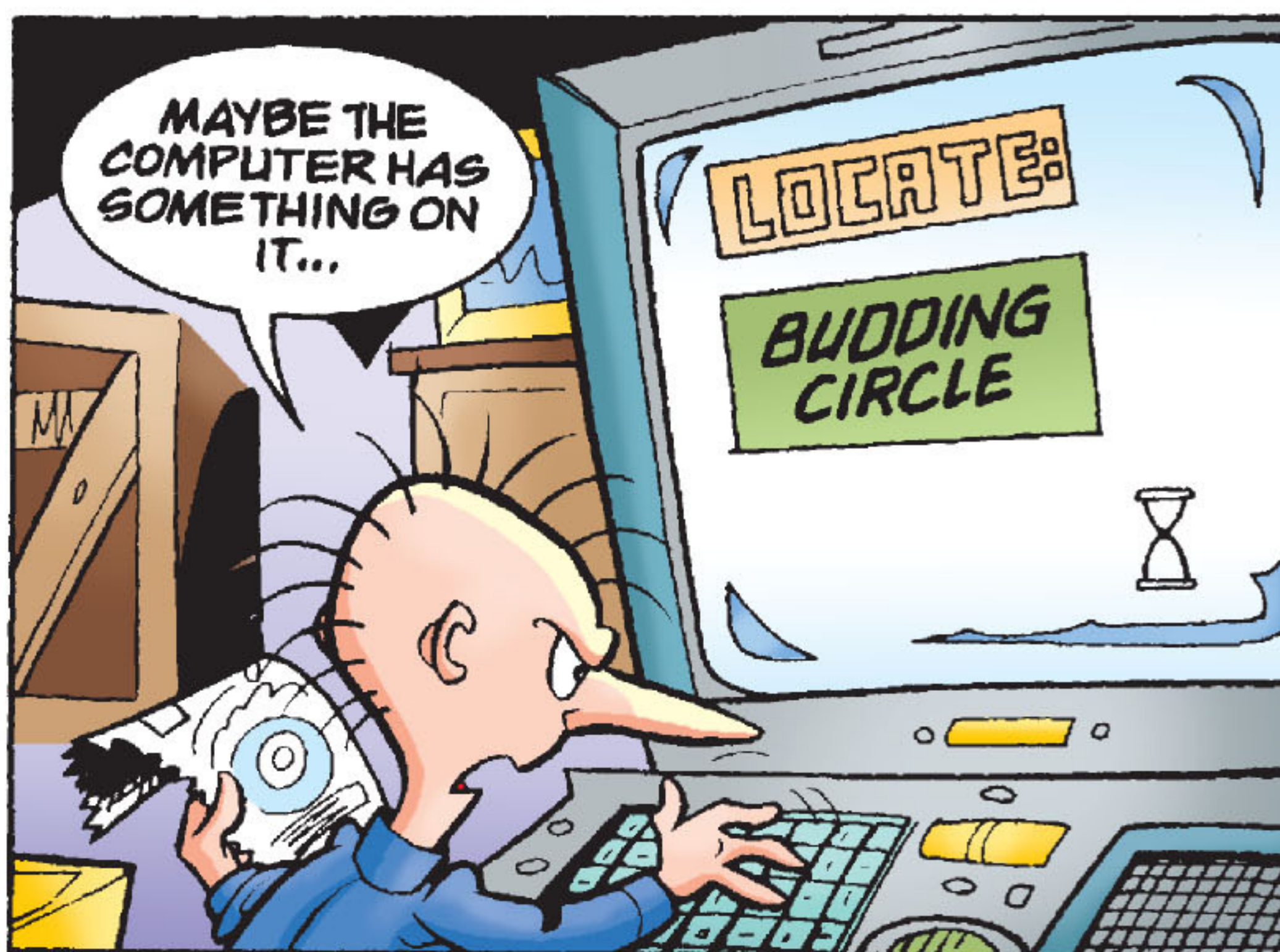
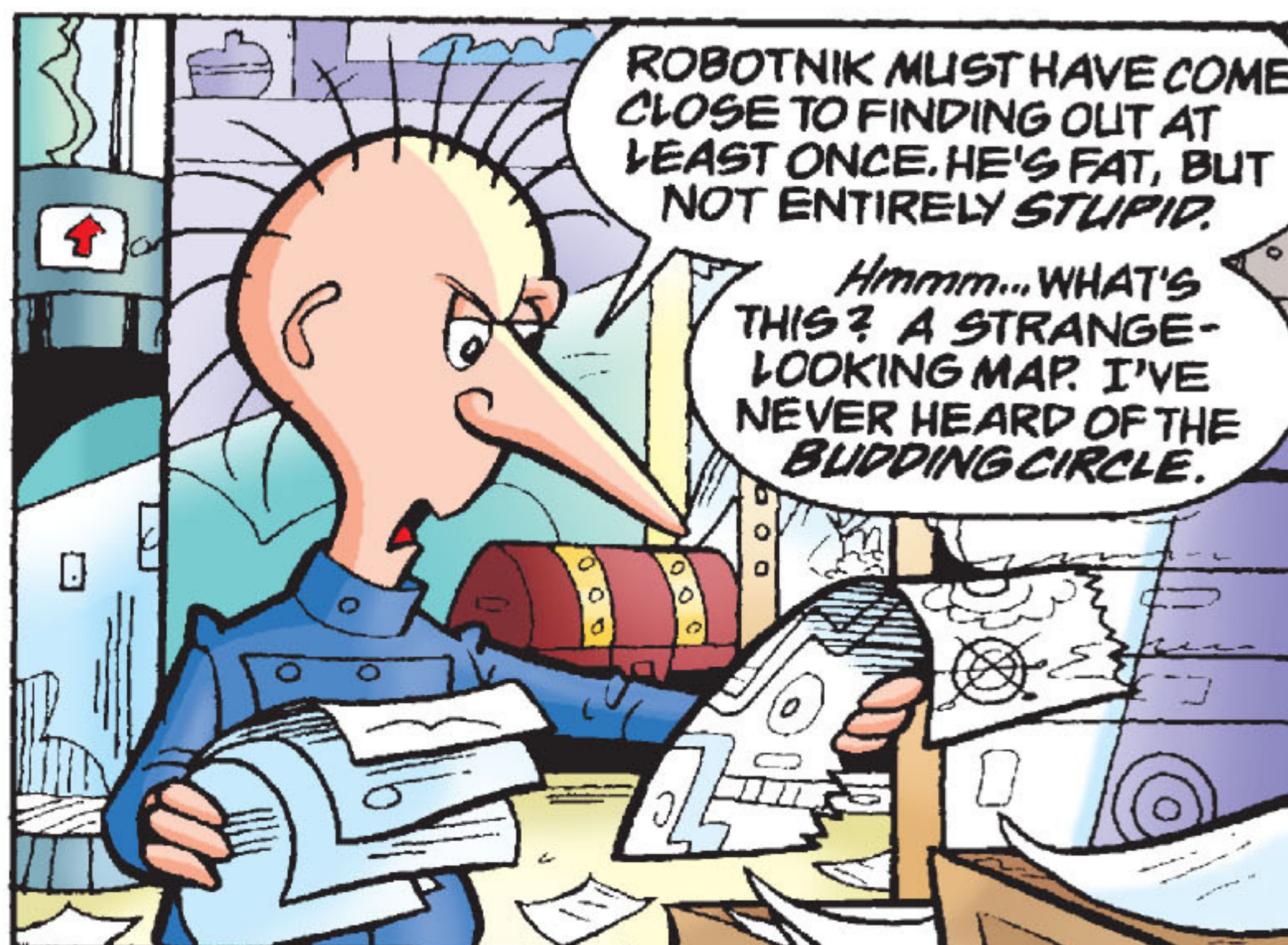
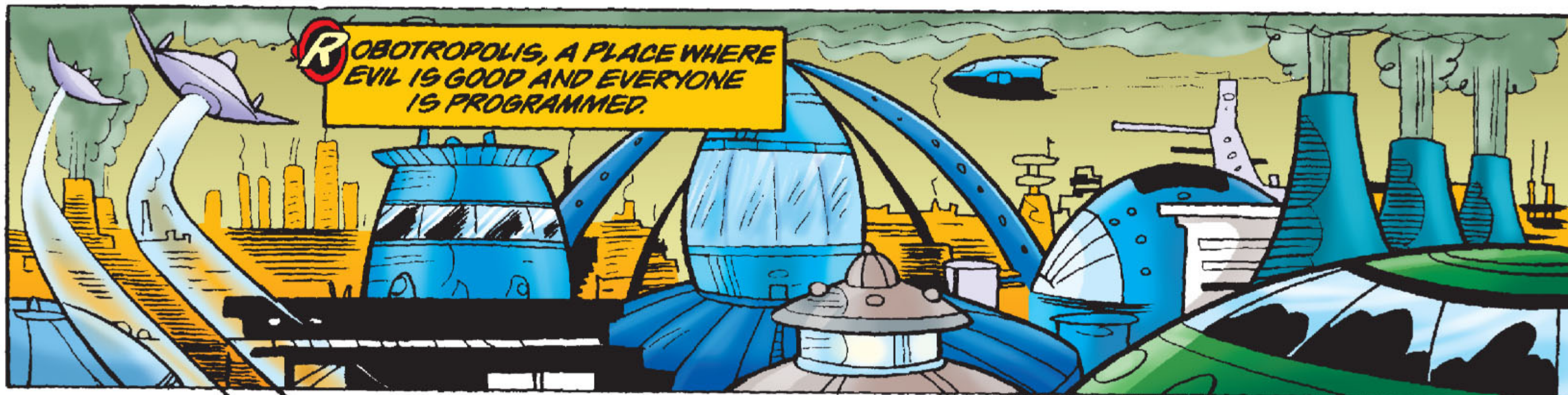
* SEE SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.13 FOR THE LOW-DOWN!

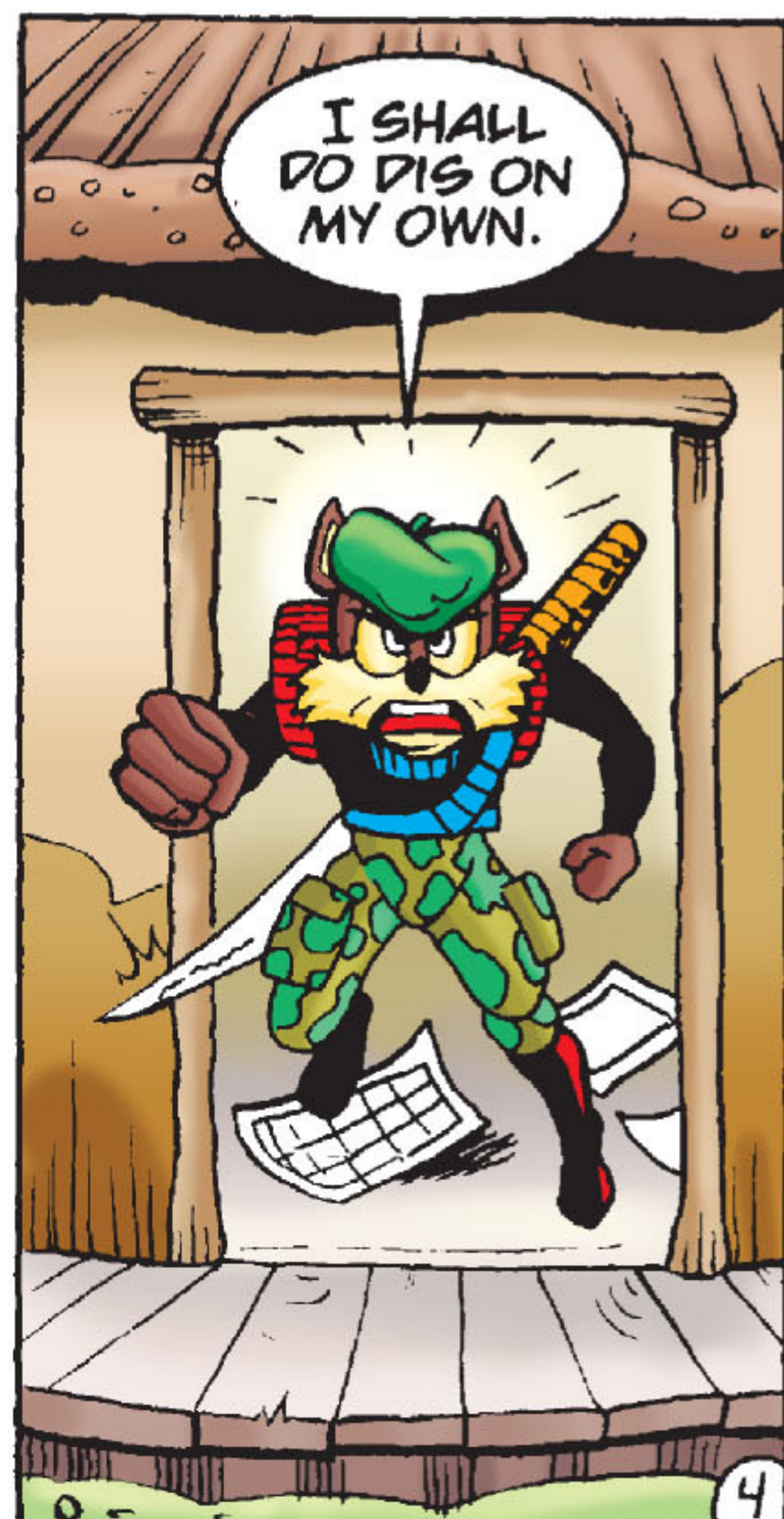
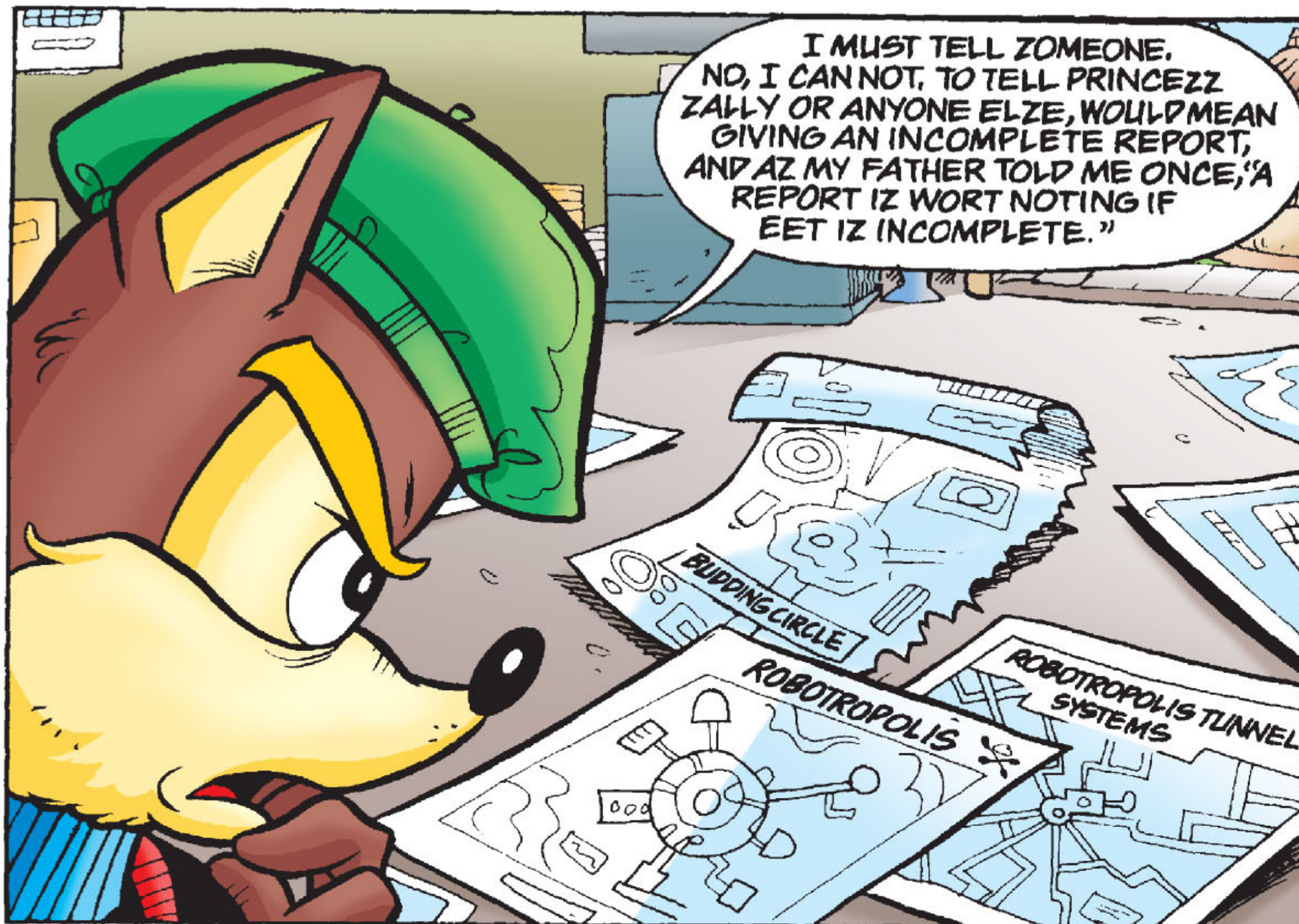
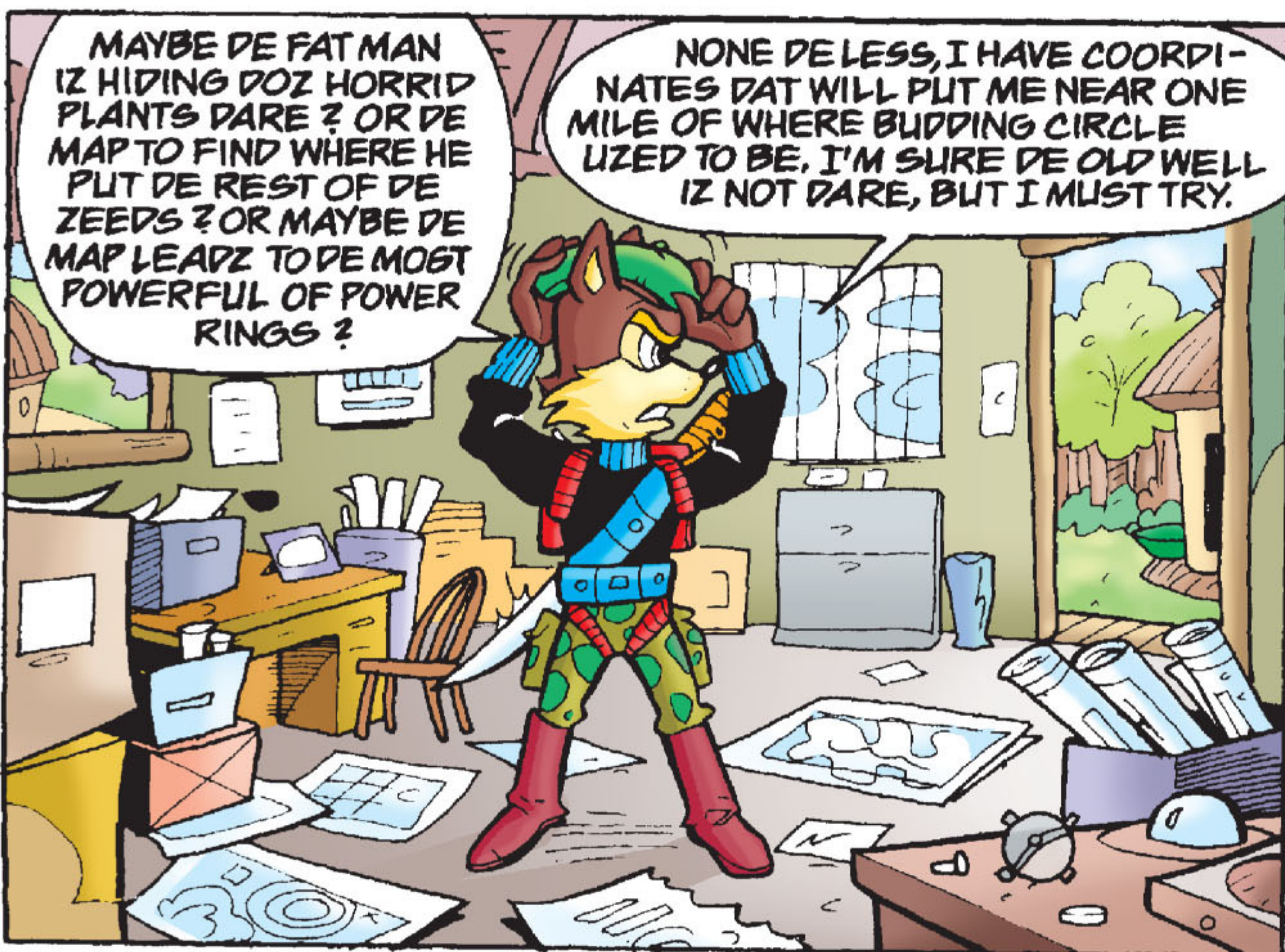
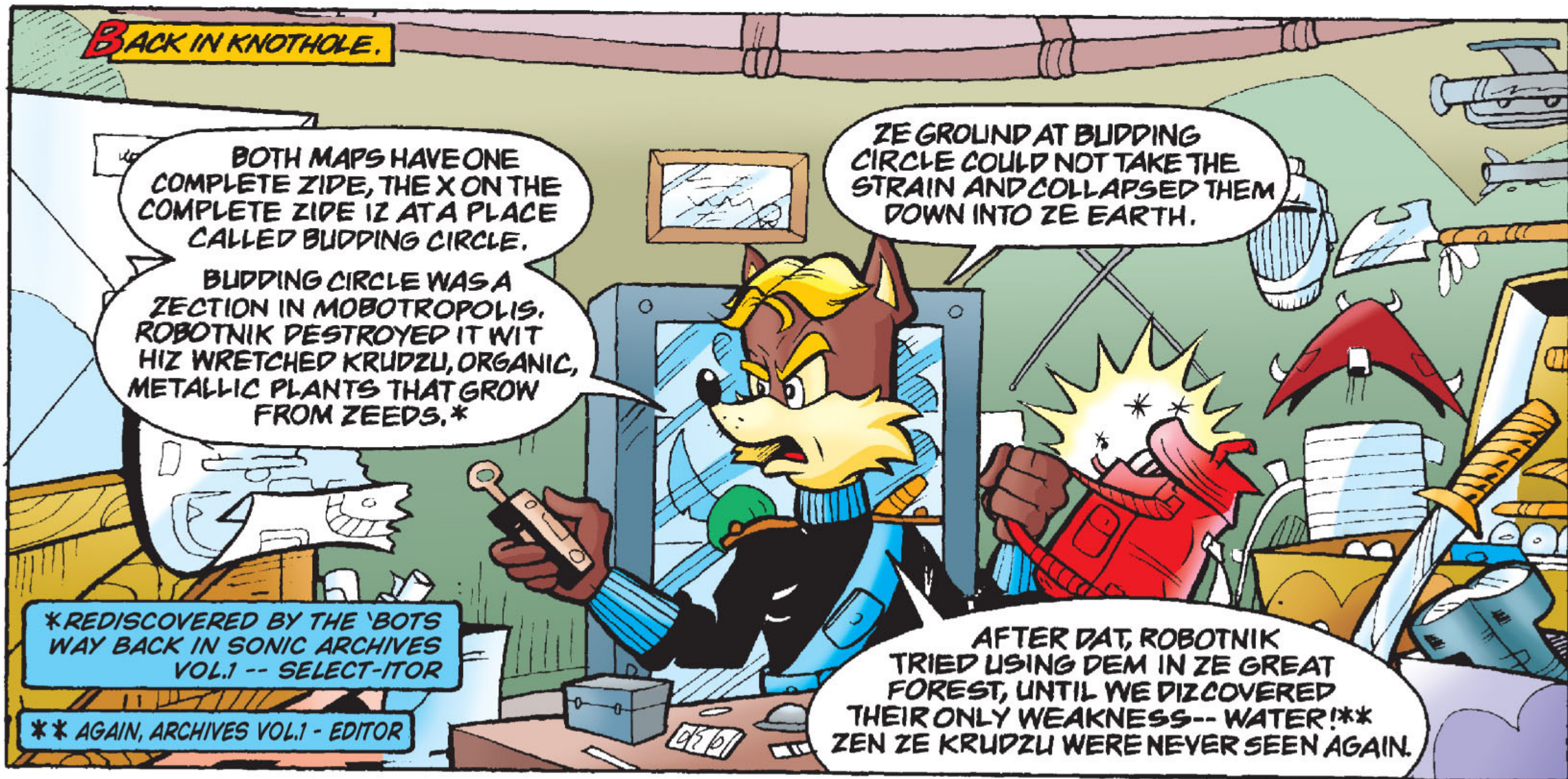


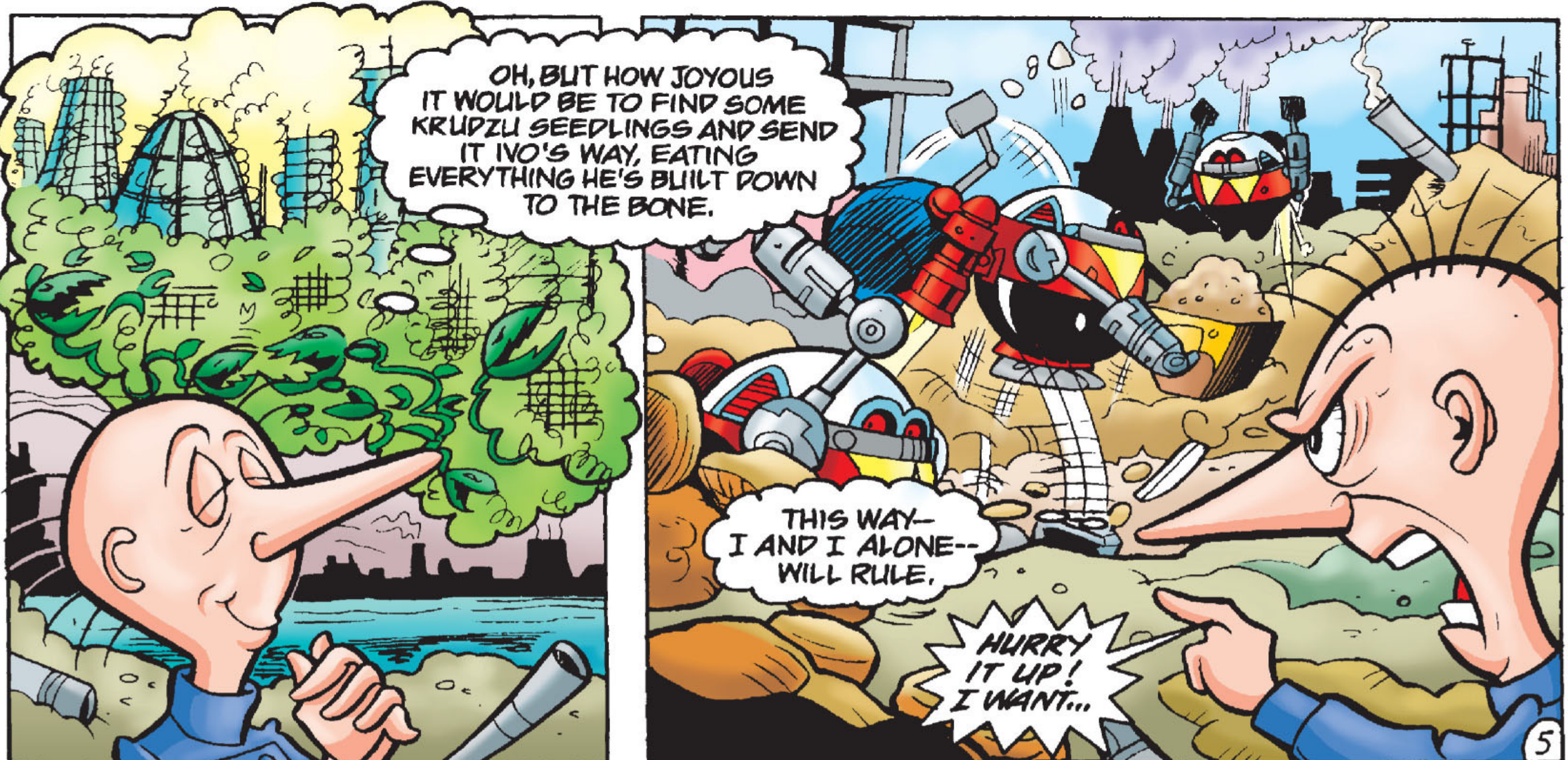
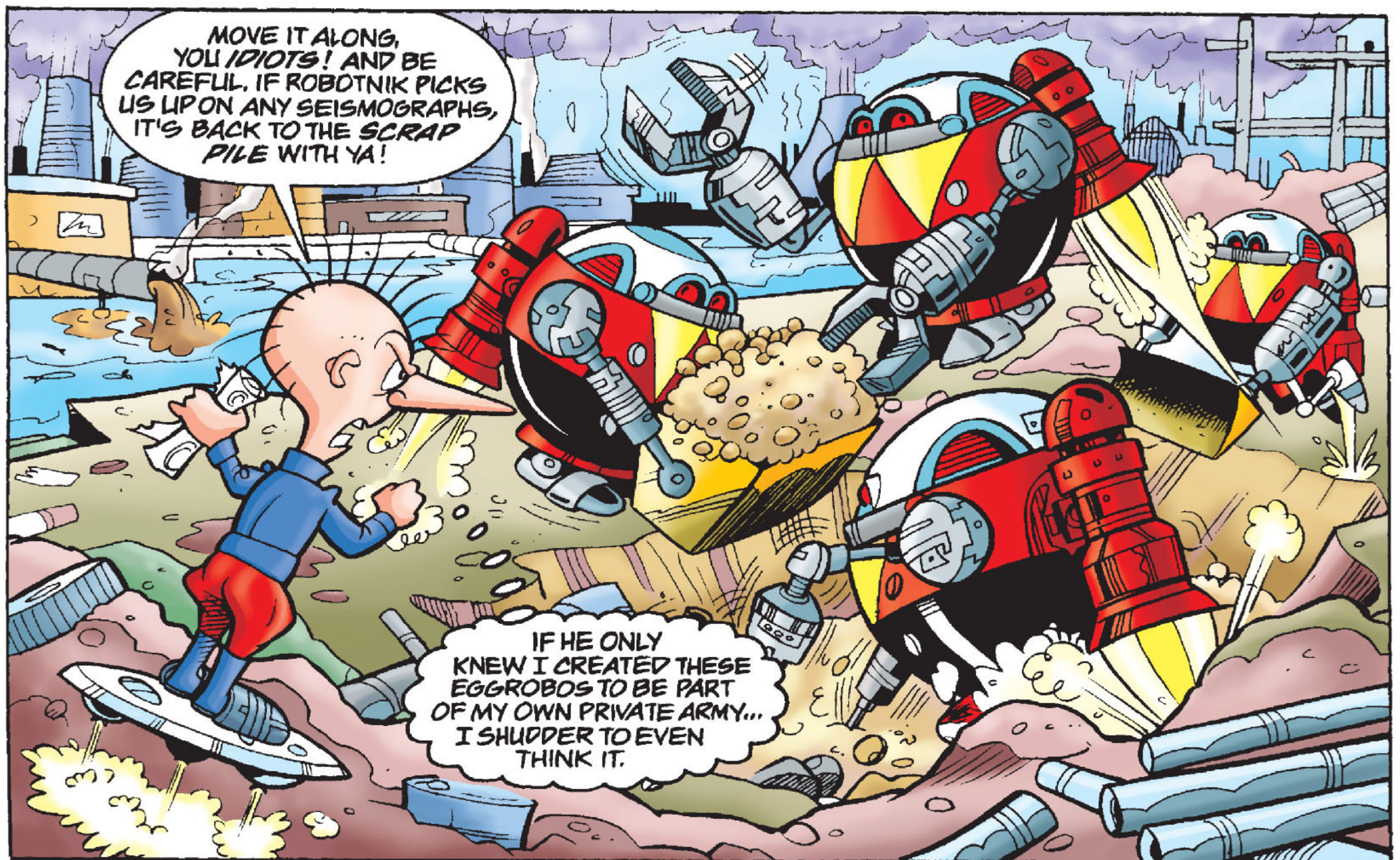
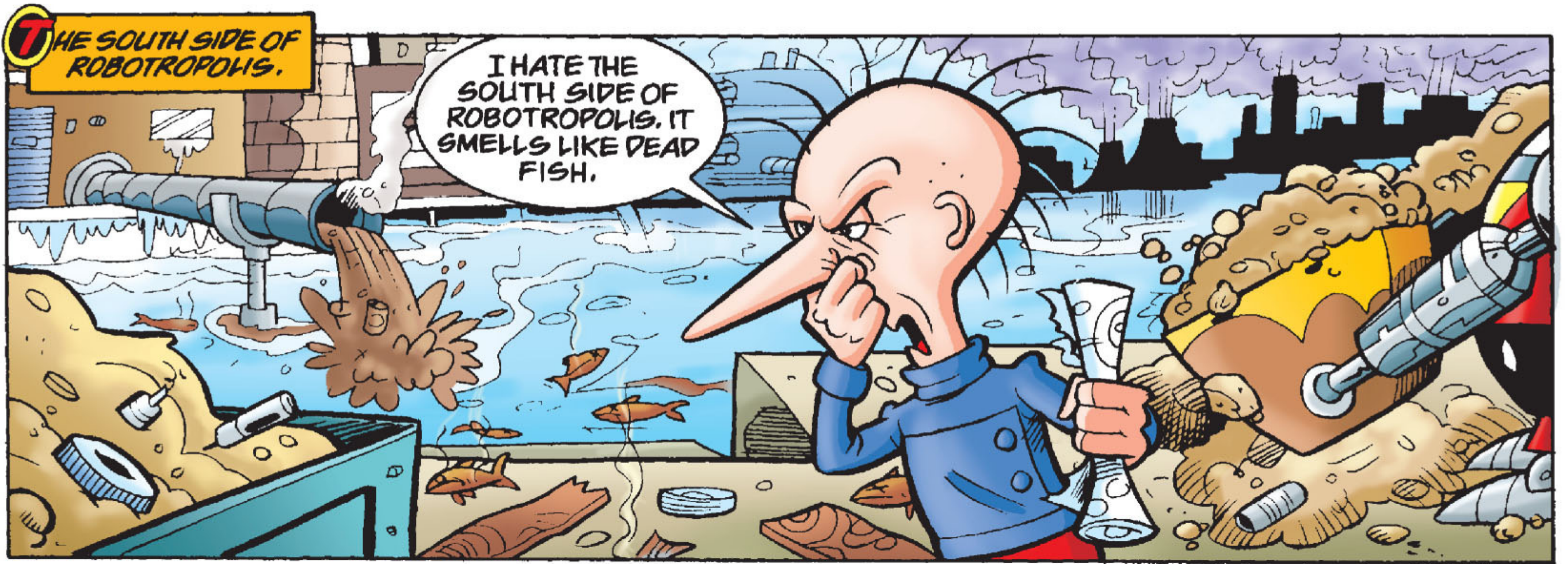
KING ACORN RESTORED TO HEALTH?! LOOKS LIKE IT'S COUNTDOWN TO ROBOTNIK'S DESTRUCTION, OR IS IT? THE ANSWER IS ENDGAME IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL.13! AND WHAT OF MAMMOTH MOGUL? KEEP READING SONIC ARCHIVES, SELECT & THE UPCOMING KNUCKLES ARCHIVES TO FIND OUT!

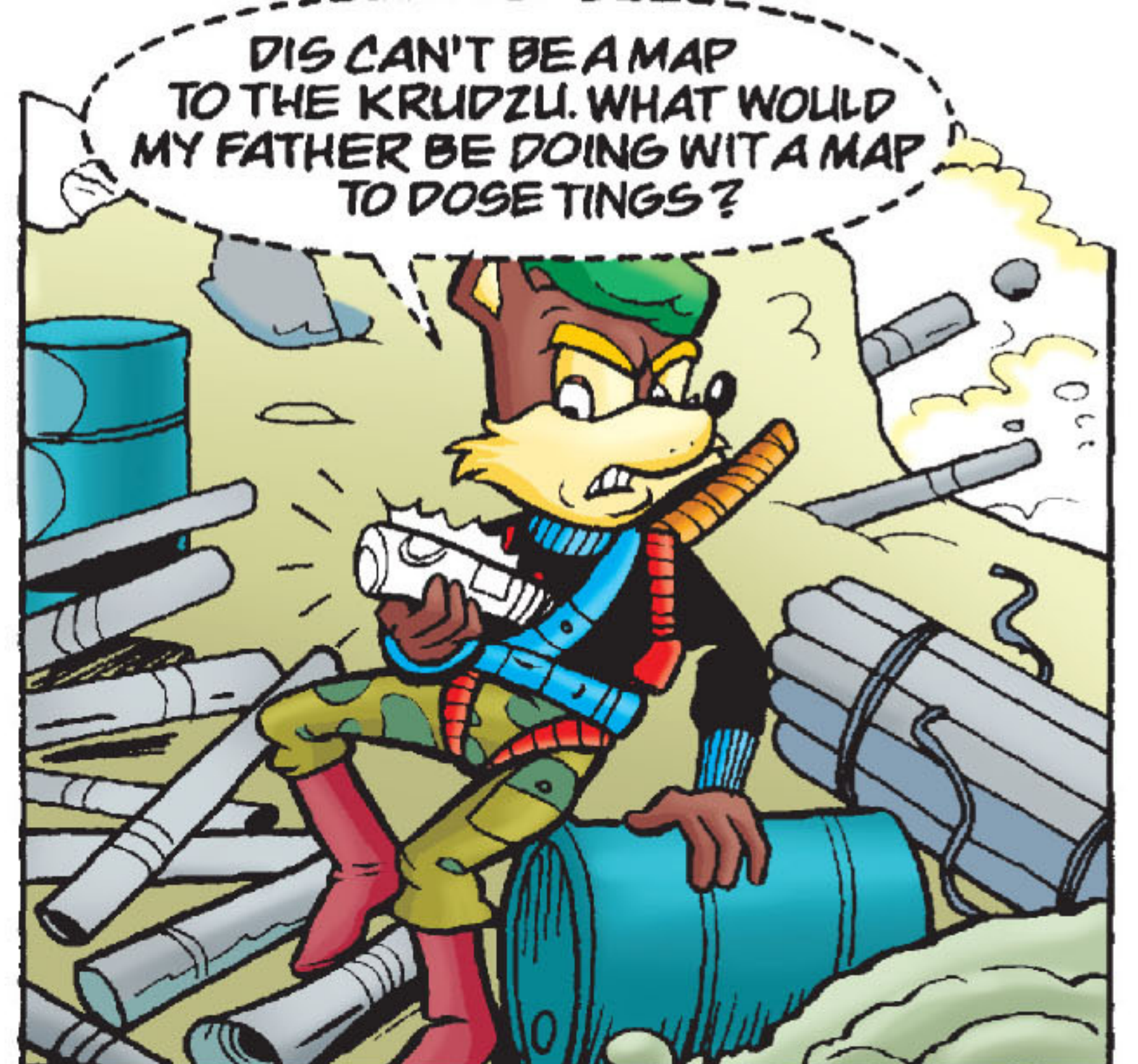
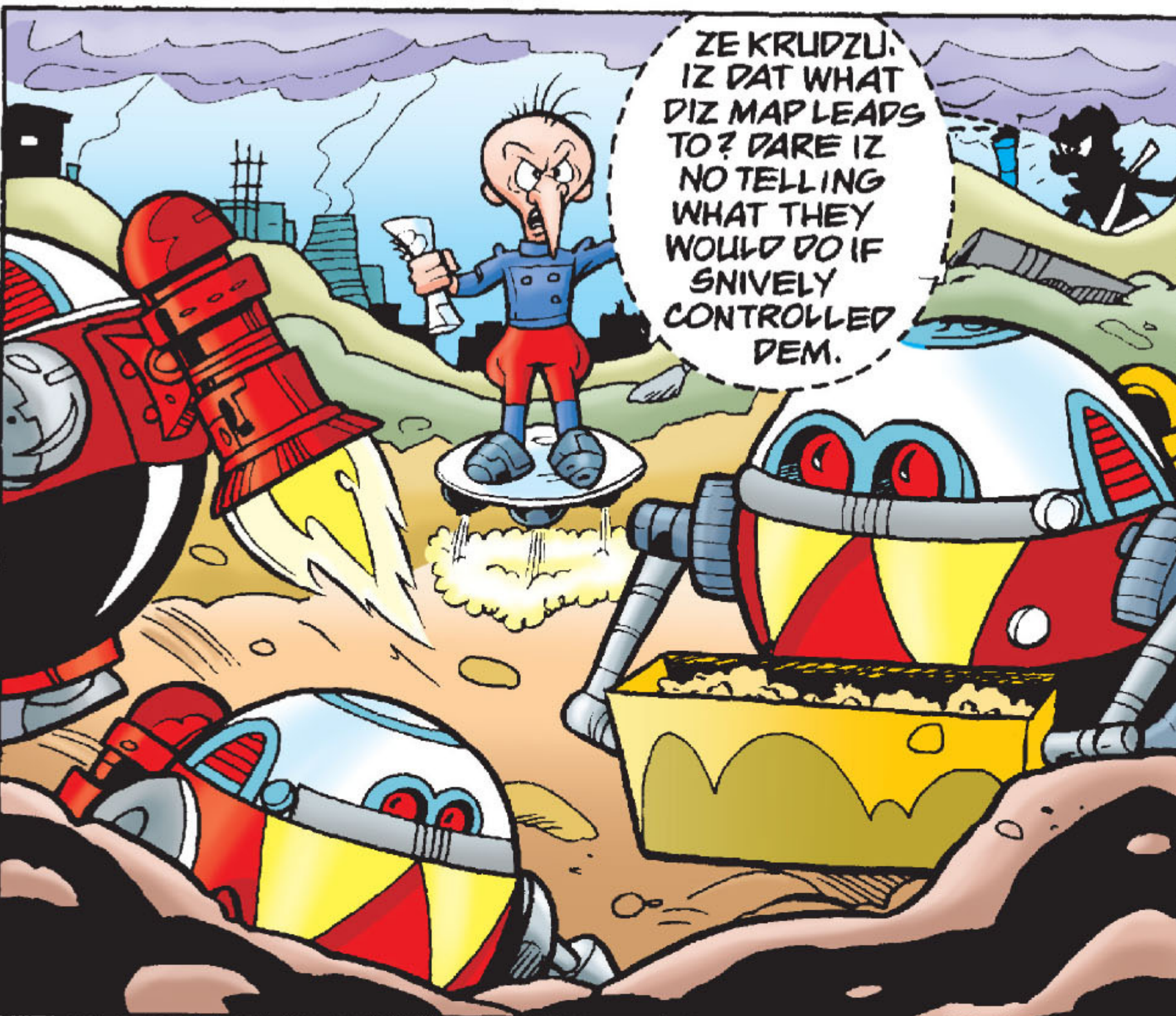
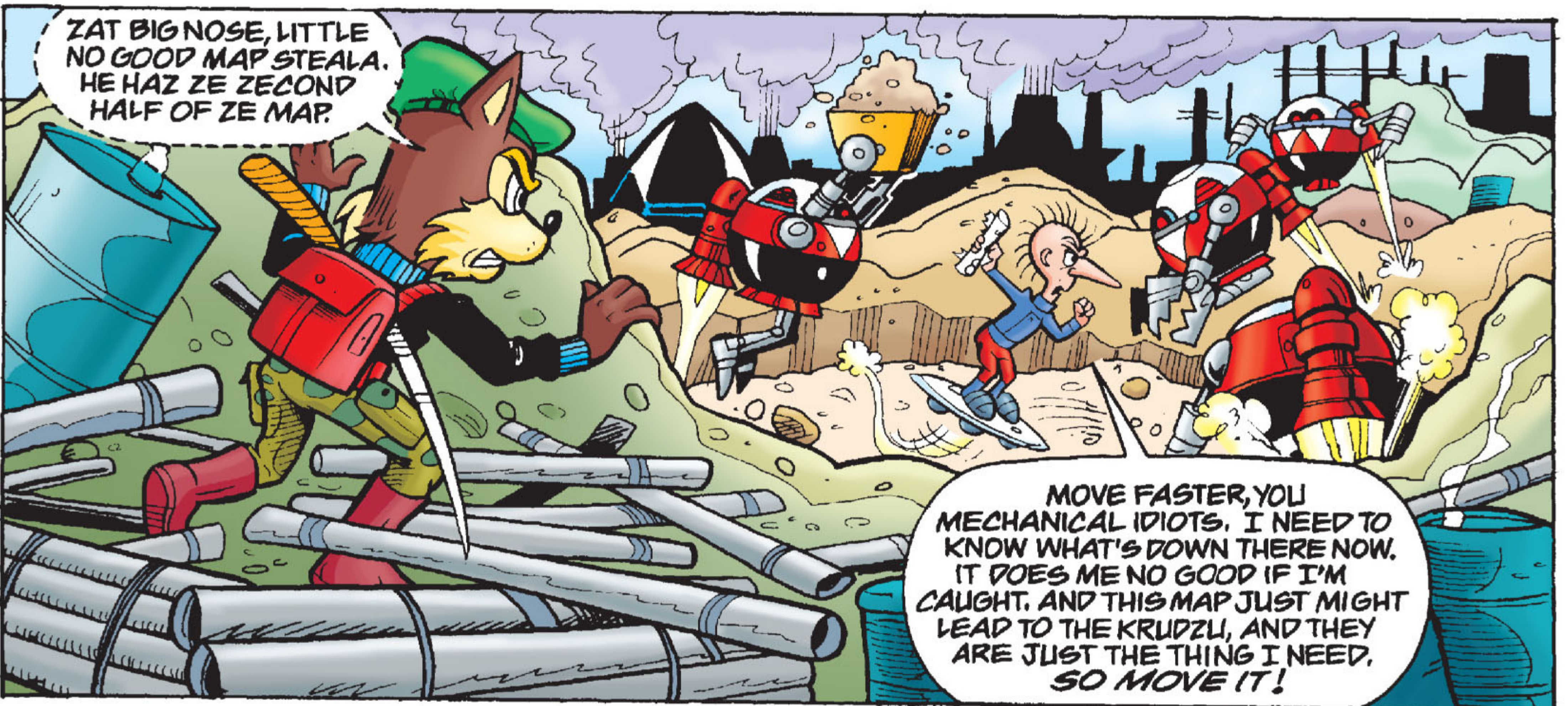
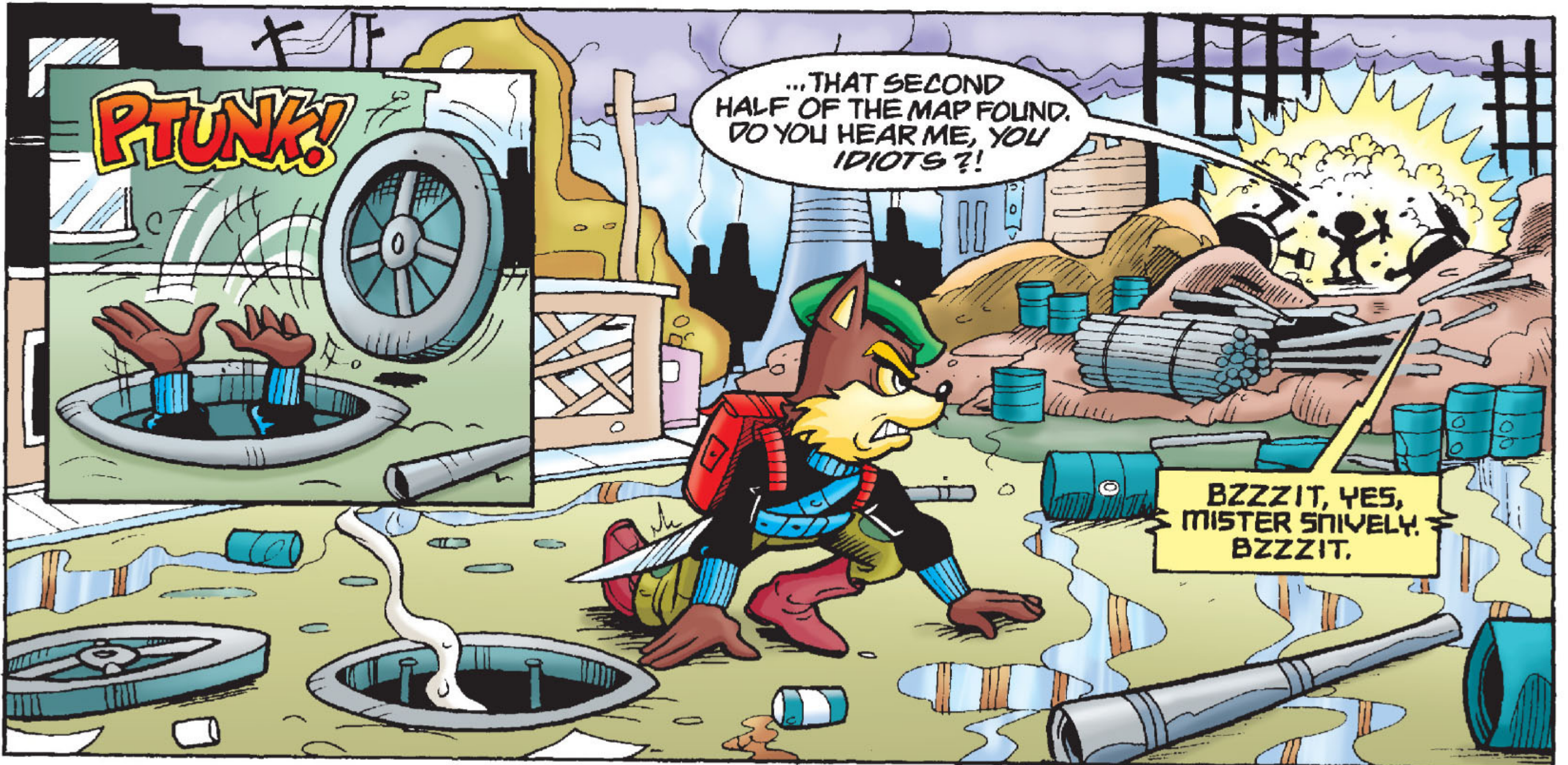


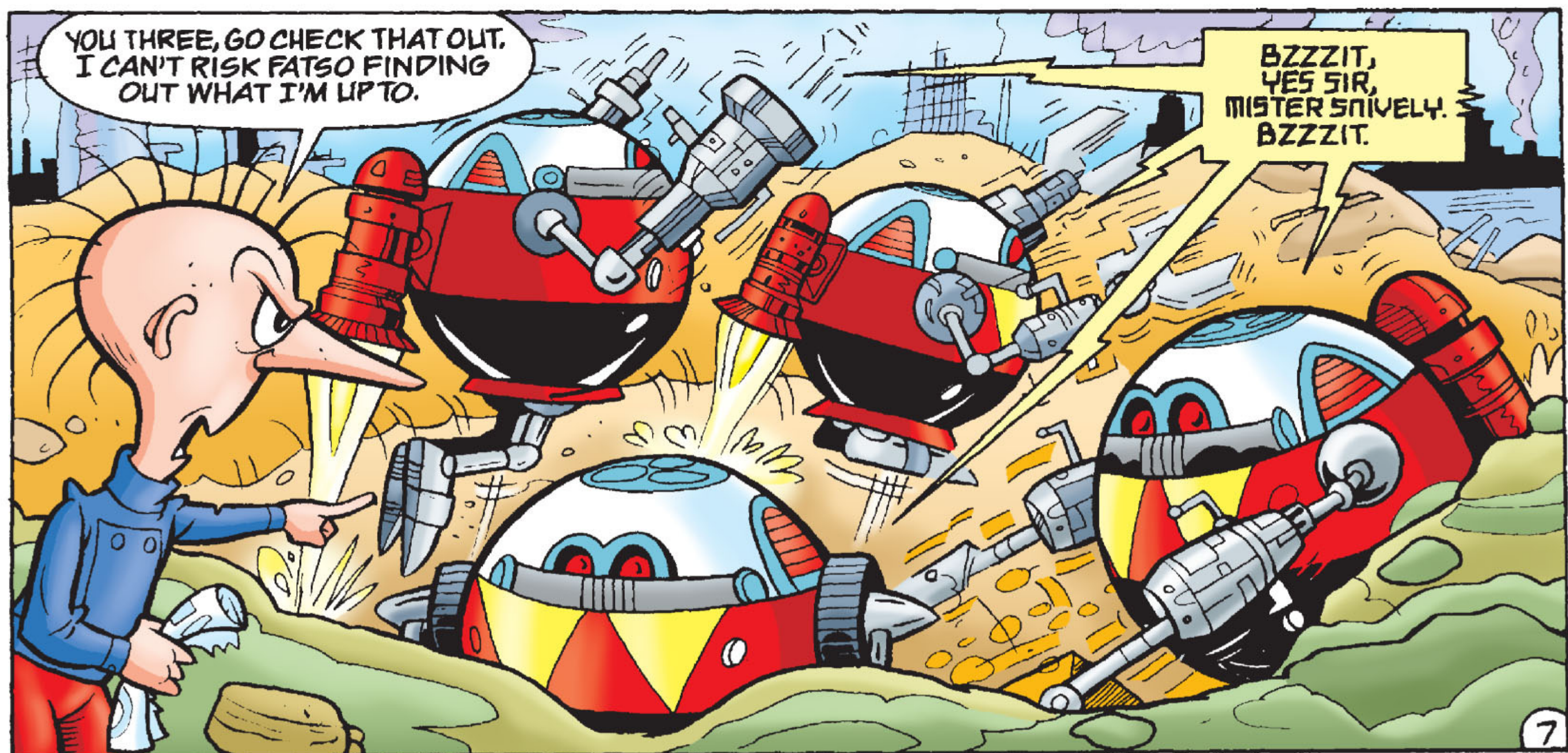
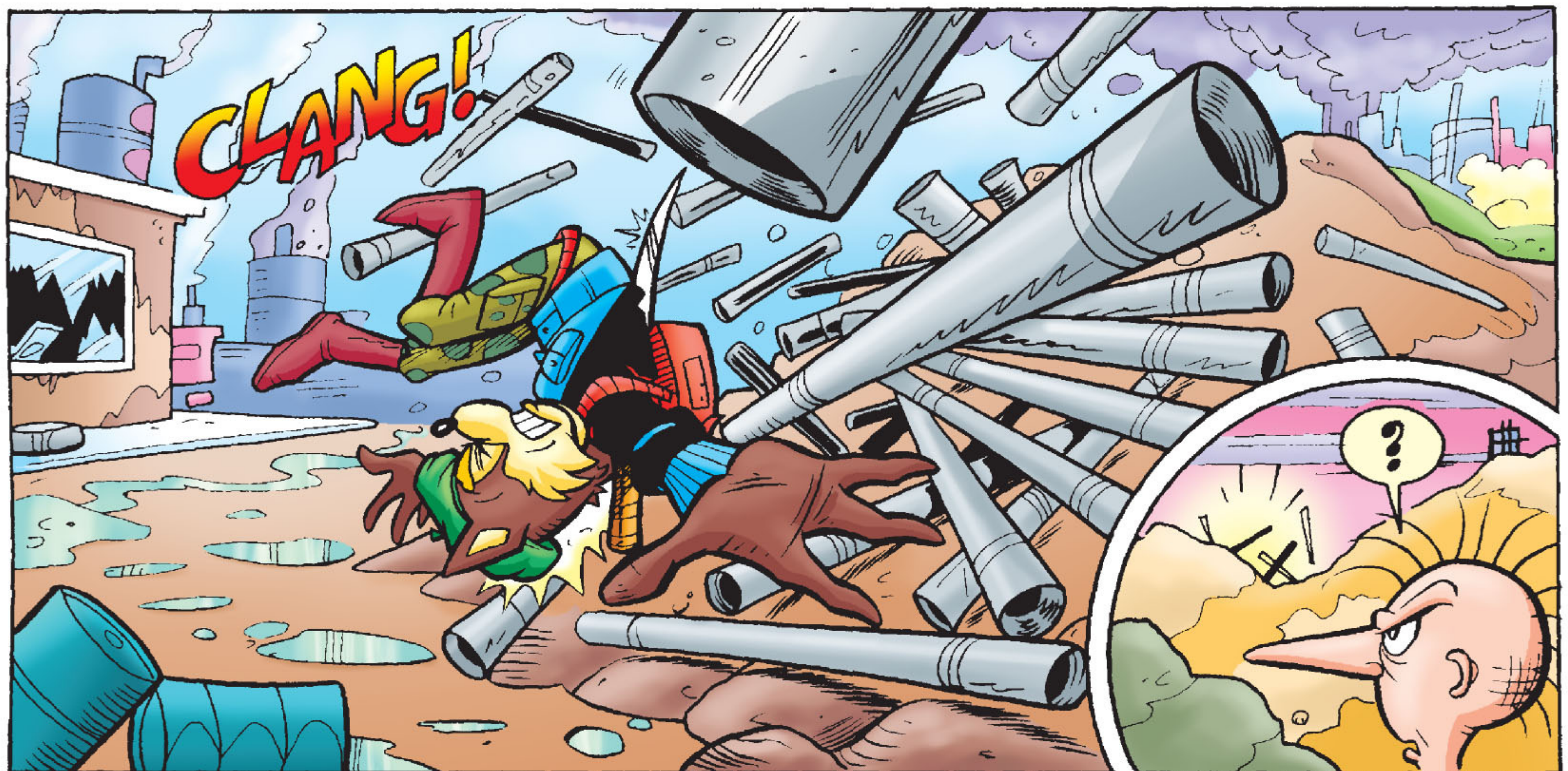


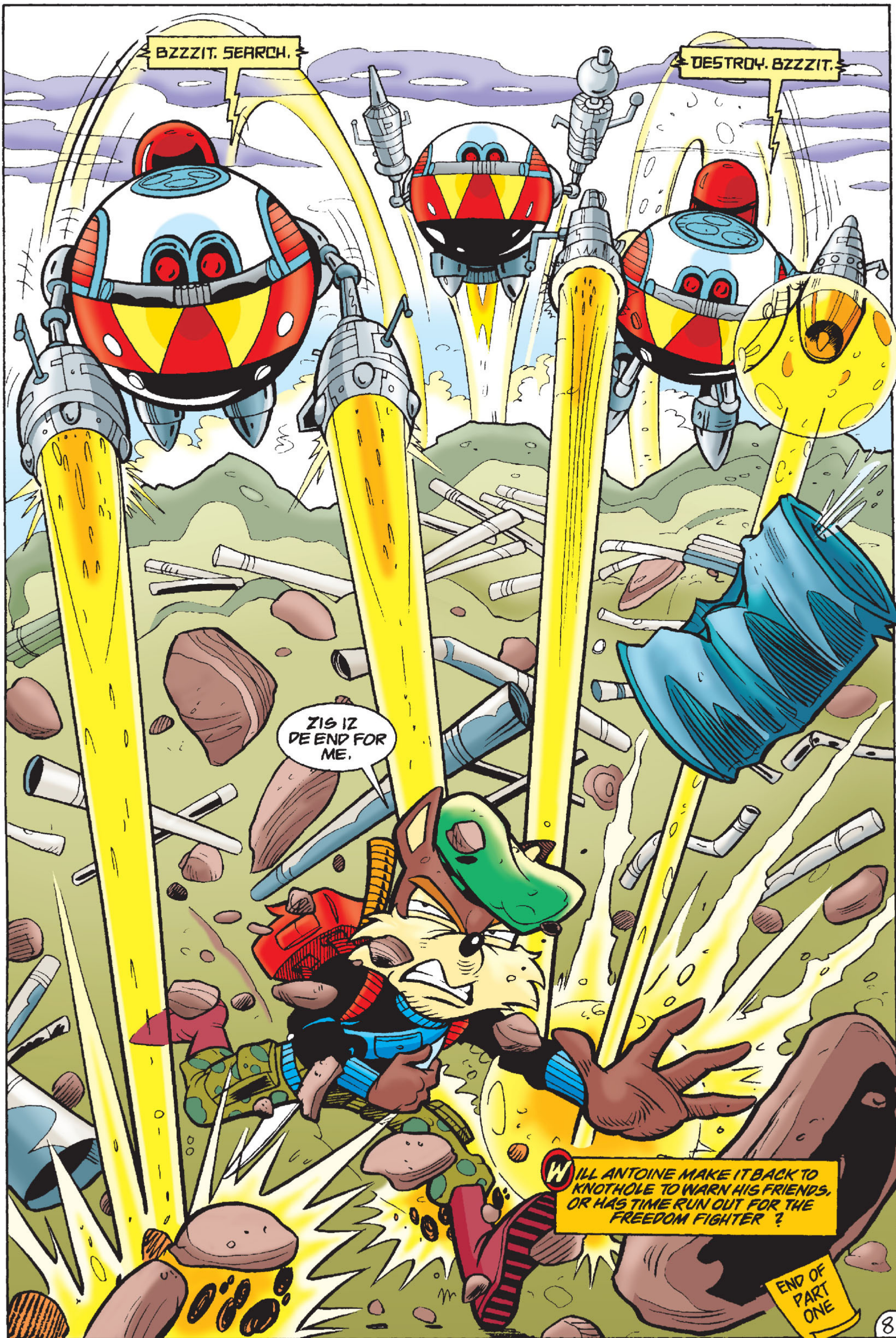












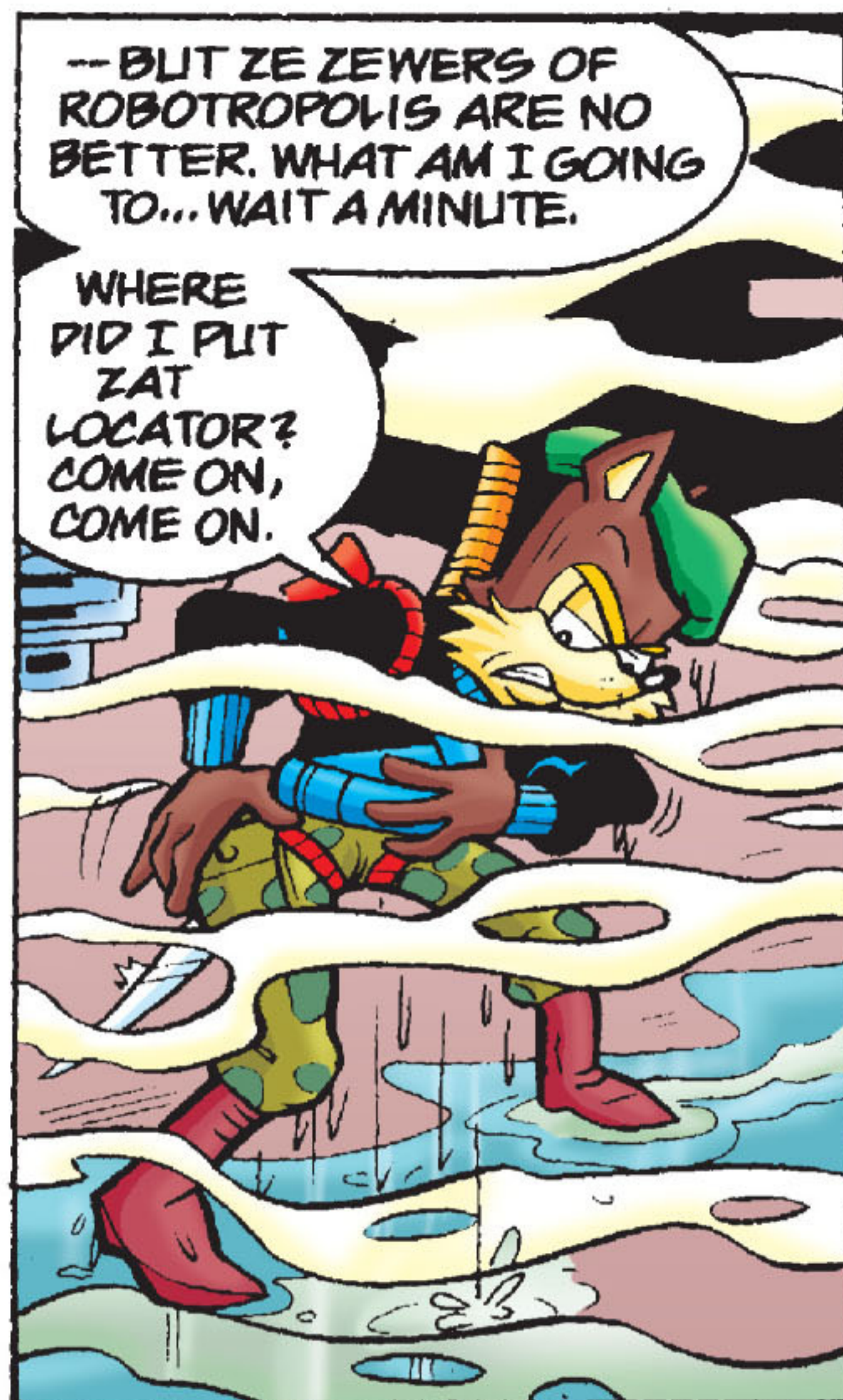
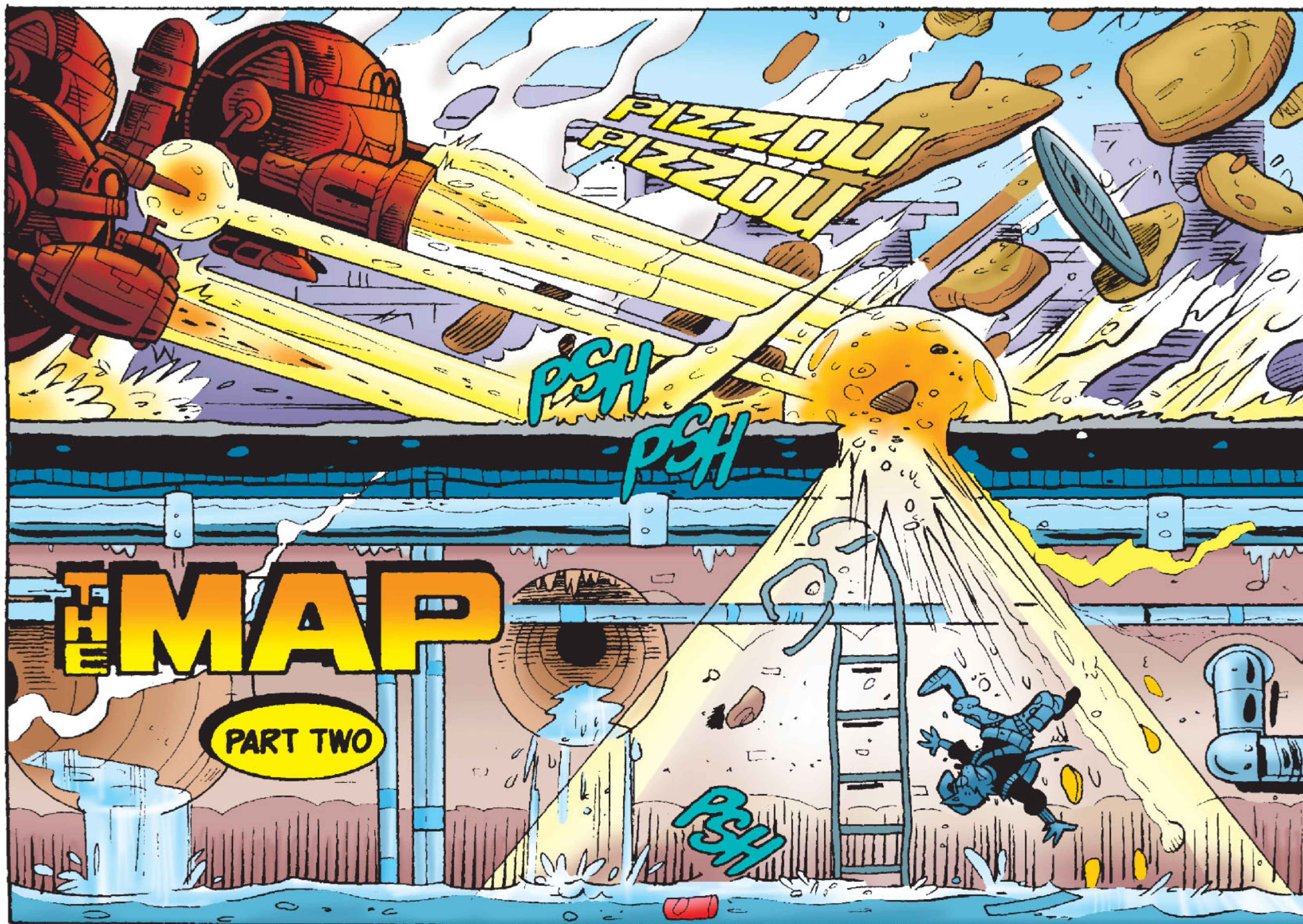
BZZZIT. SEARCH.

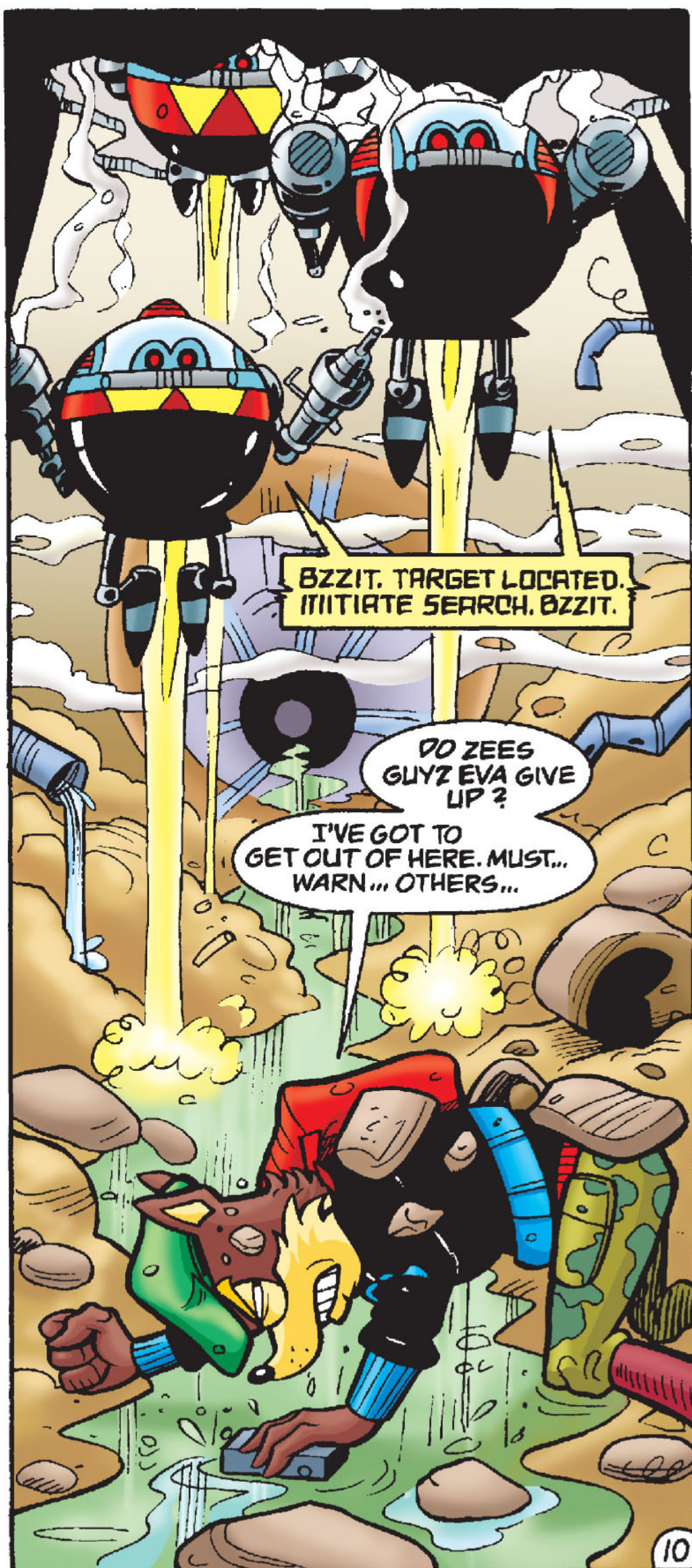
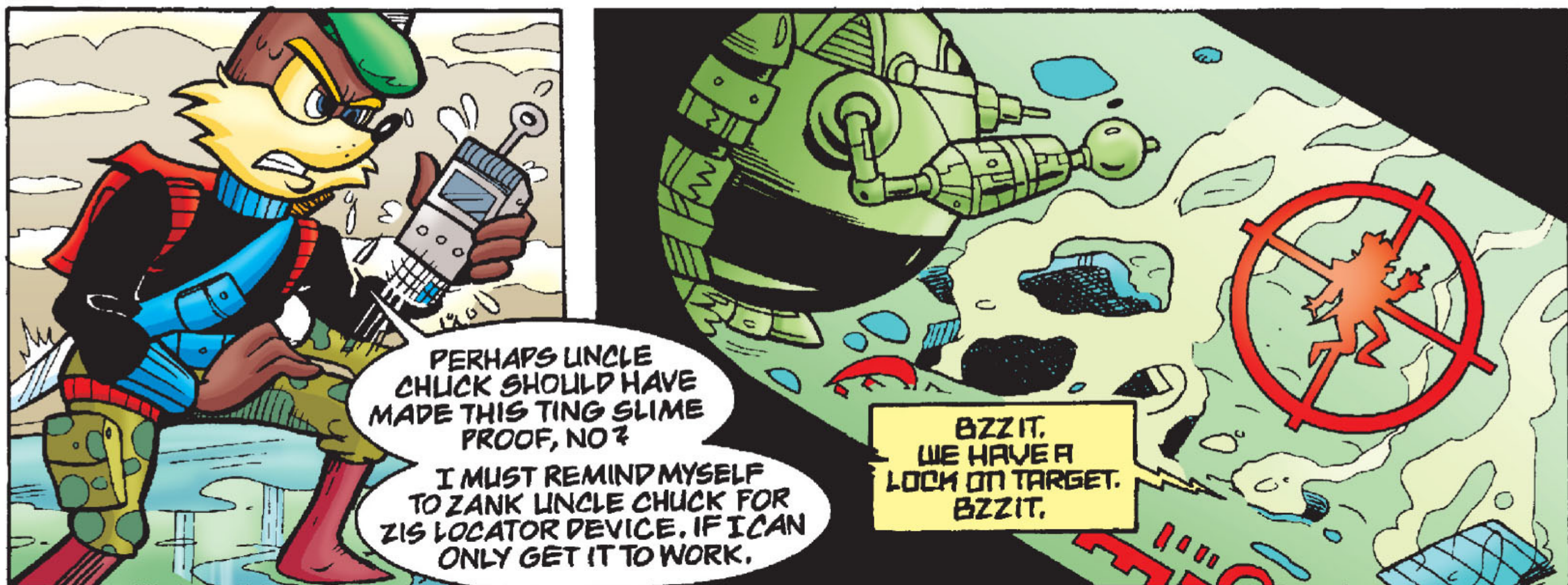
DESTROY. BZZZIT.

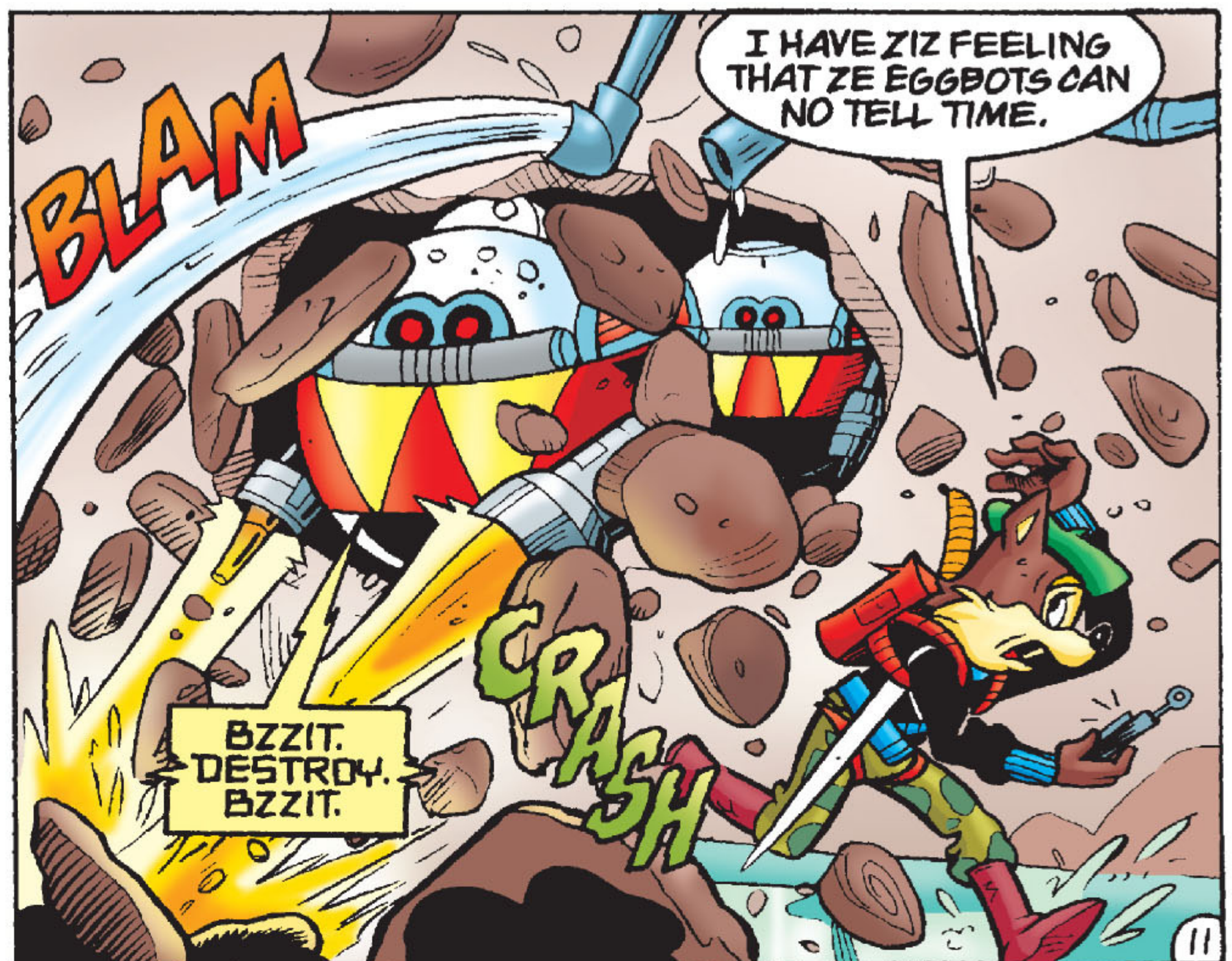
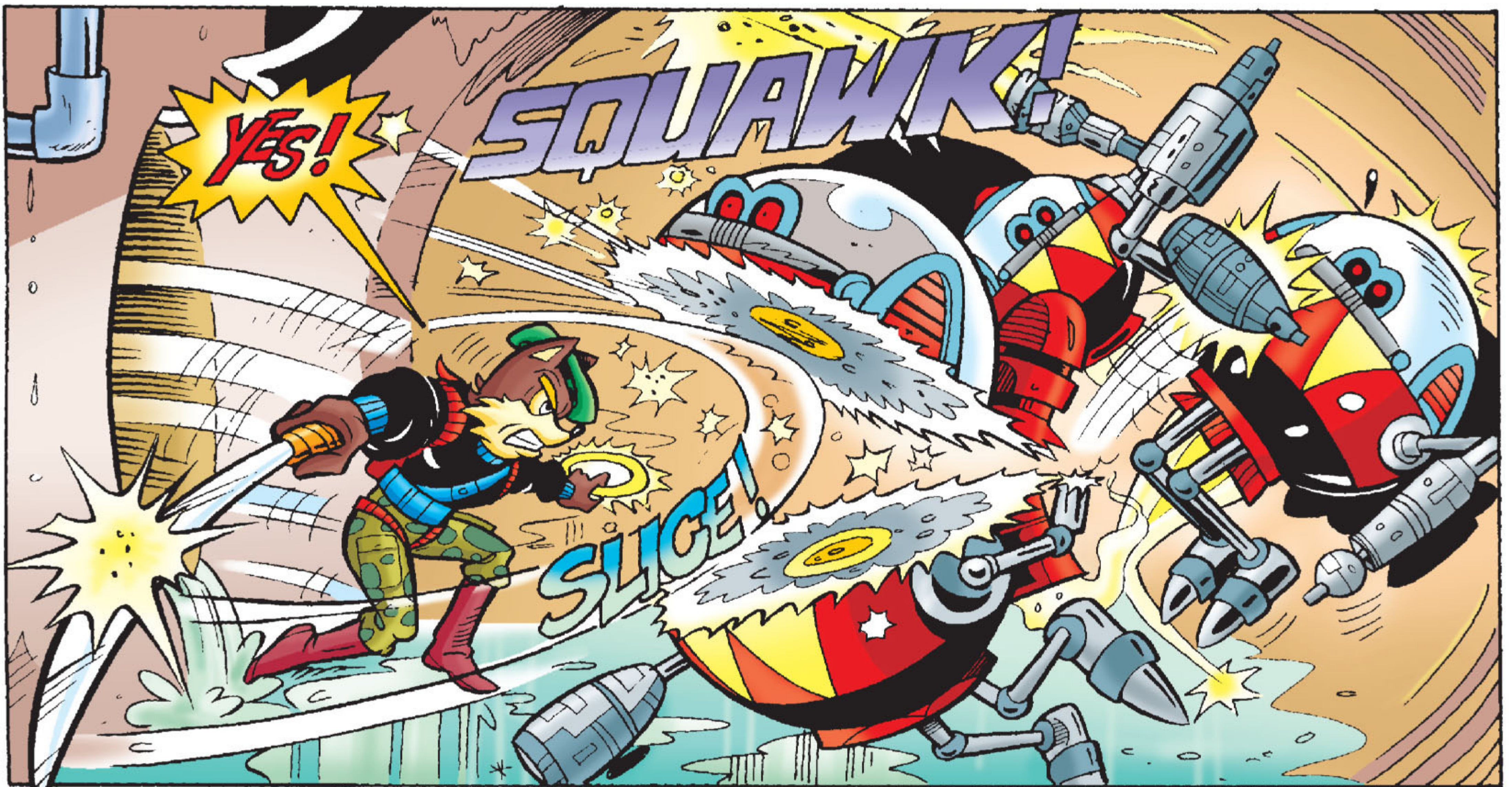
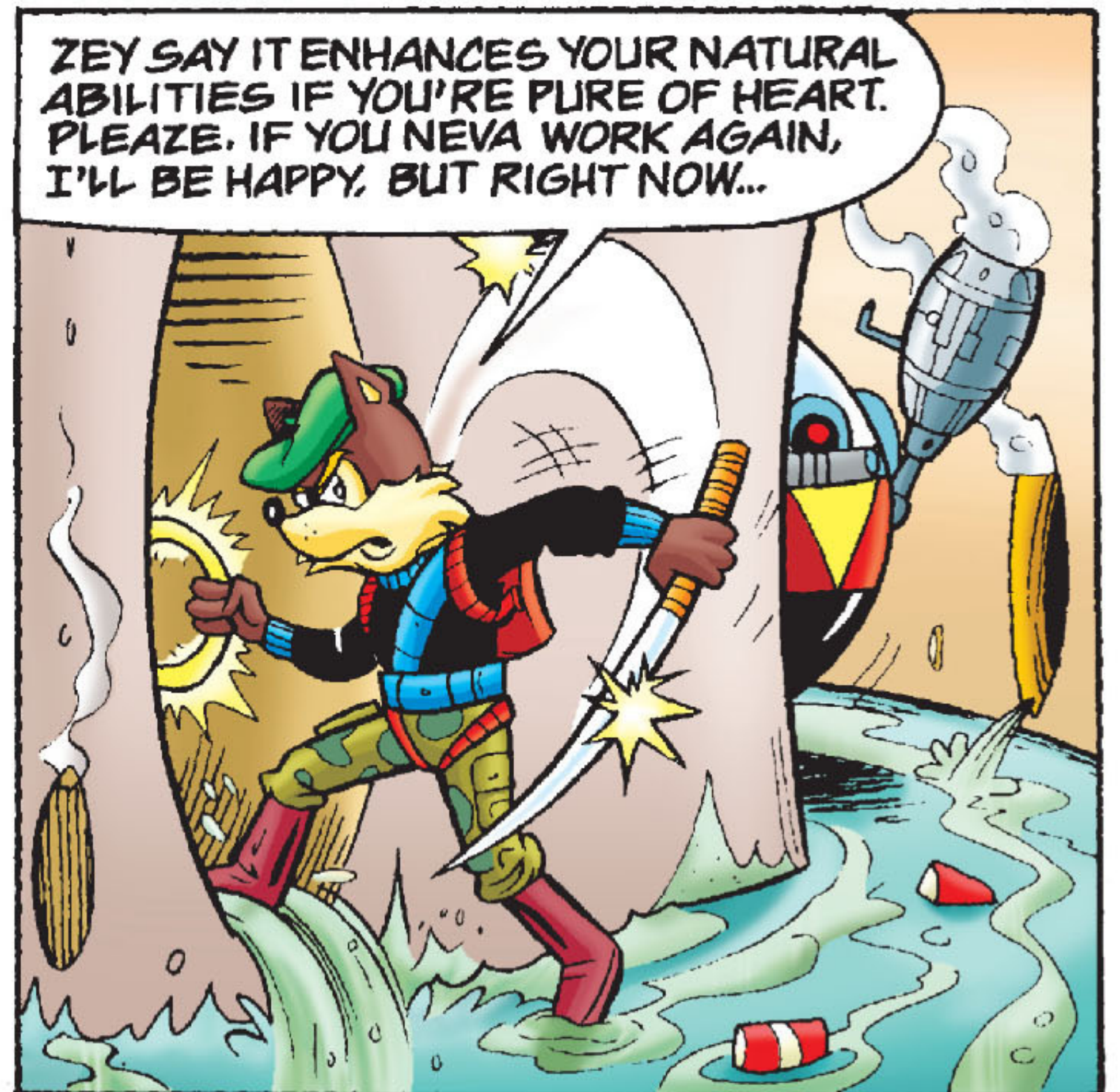
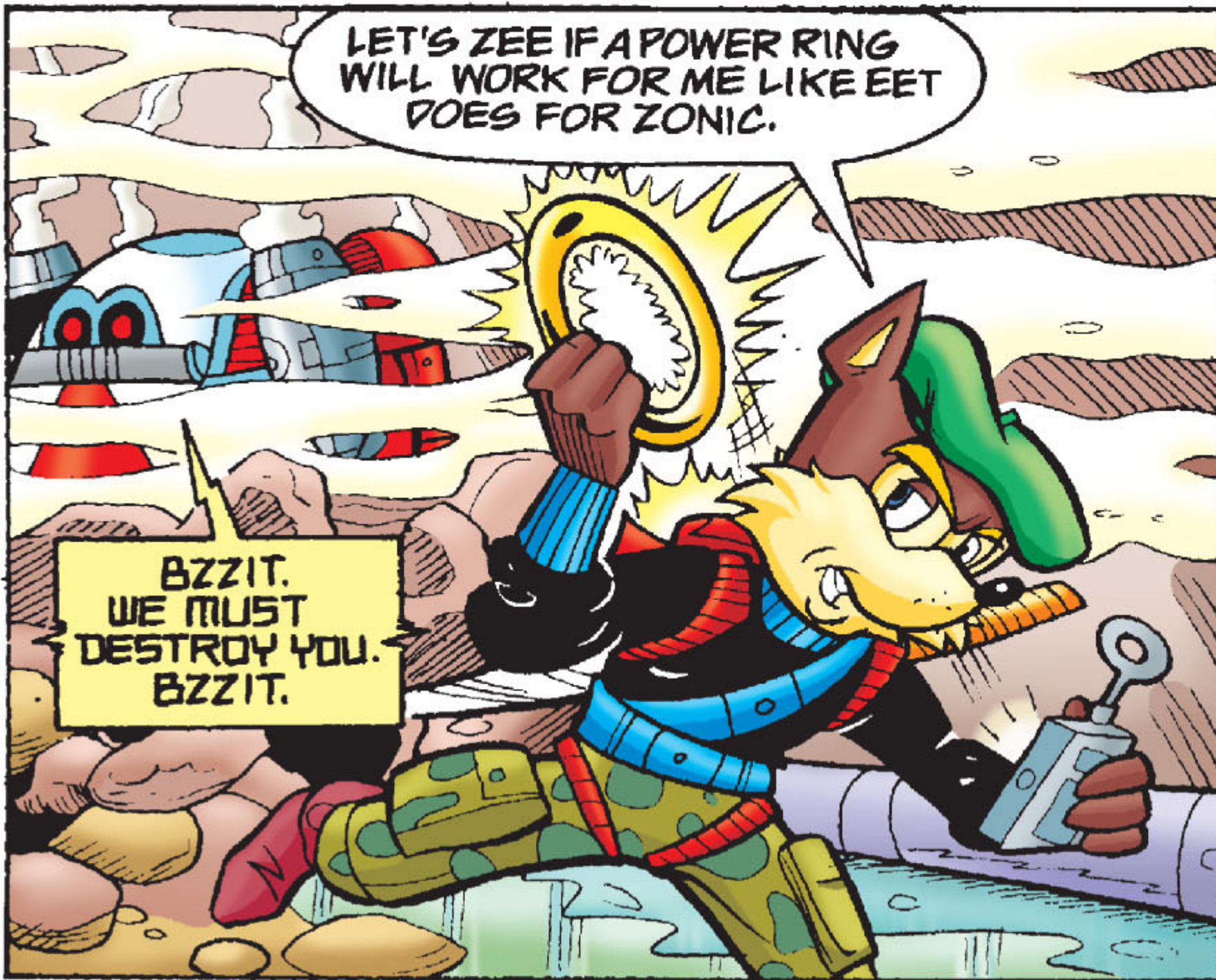
ZIS IZ
DE END FOR
ME.

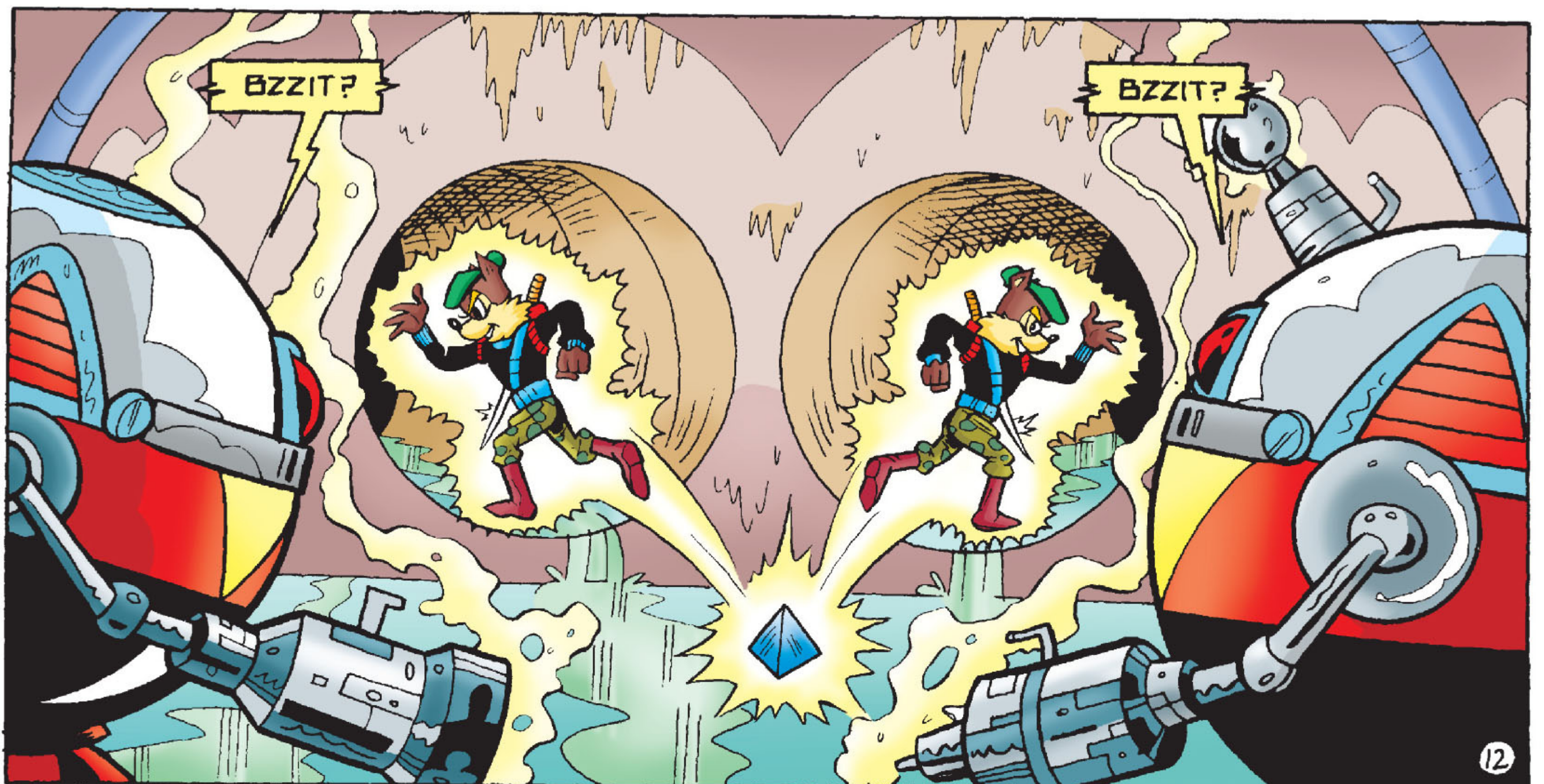
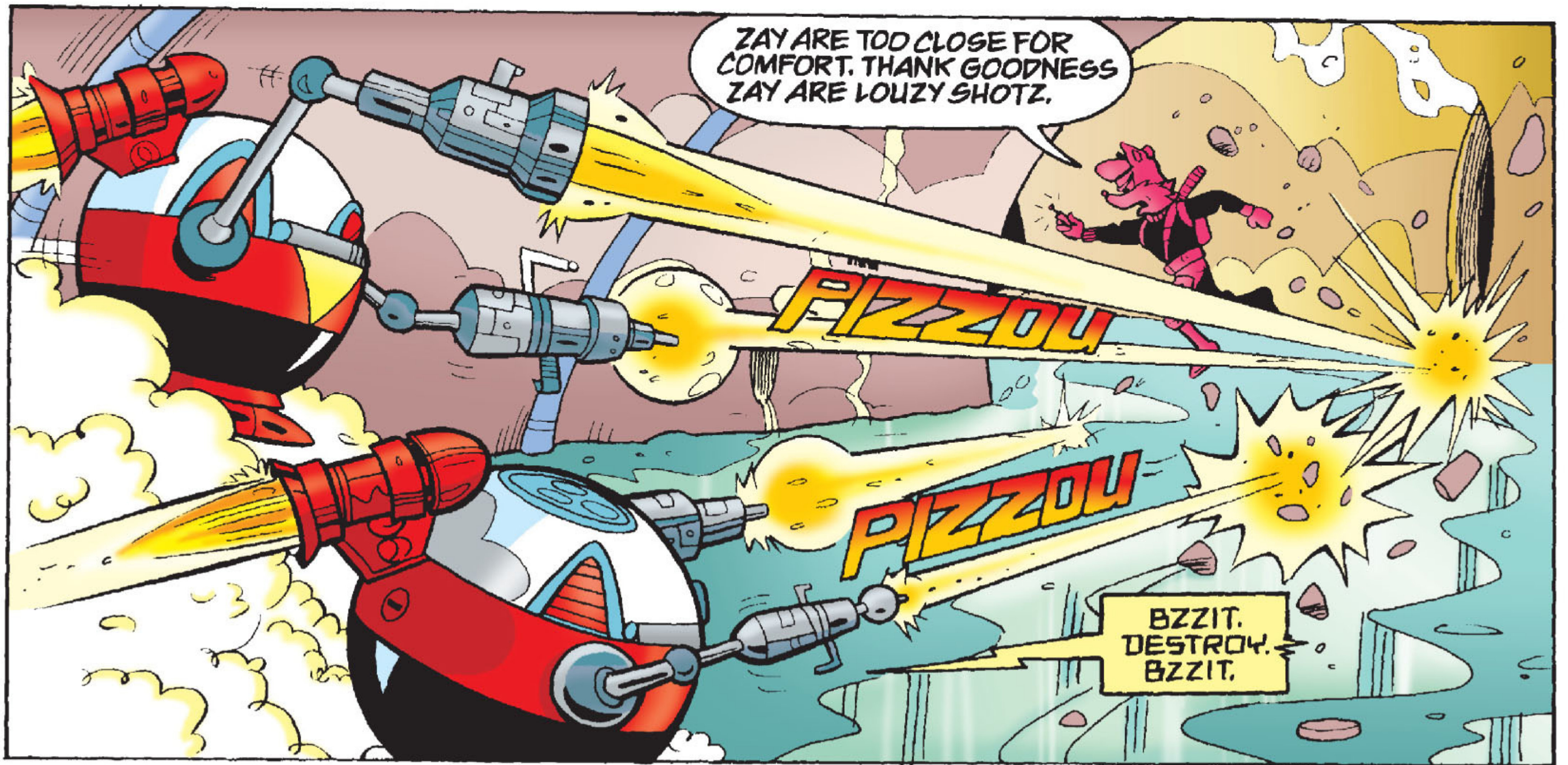
WILL ANTOINE MAKE IT BACK TO
KNOTHOLE TO WARN HIS FRIENDS,
OR HAS TIME RUN OUT FOR THE
FREEDOM FIGHTER?

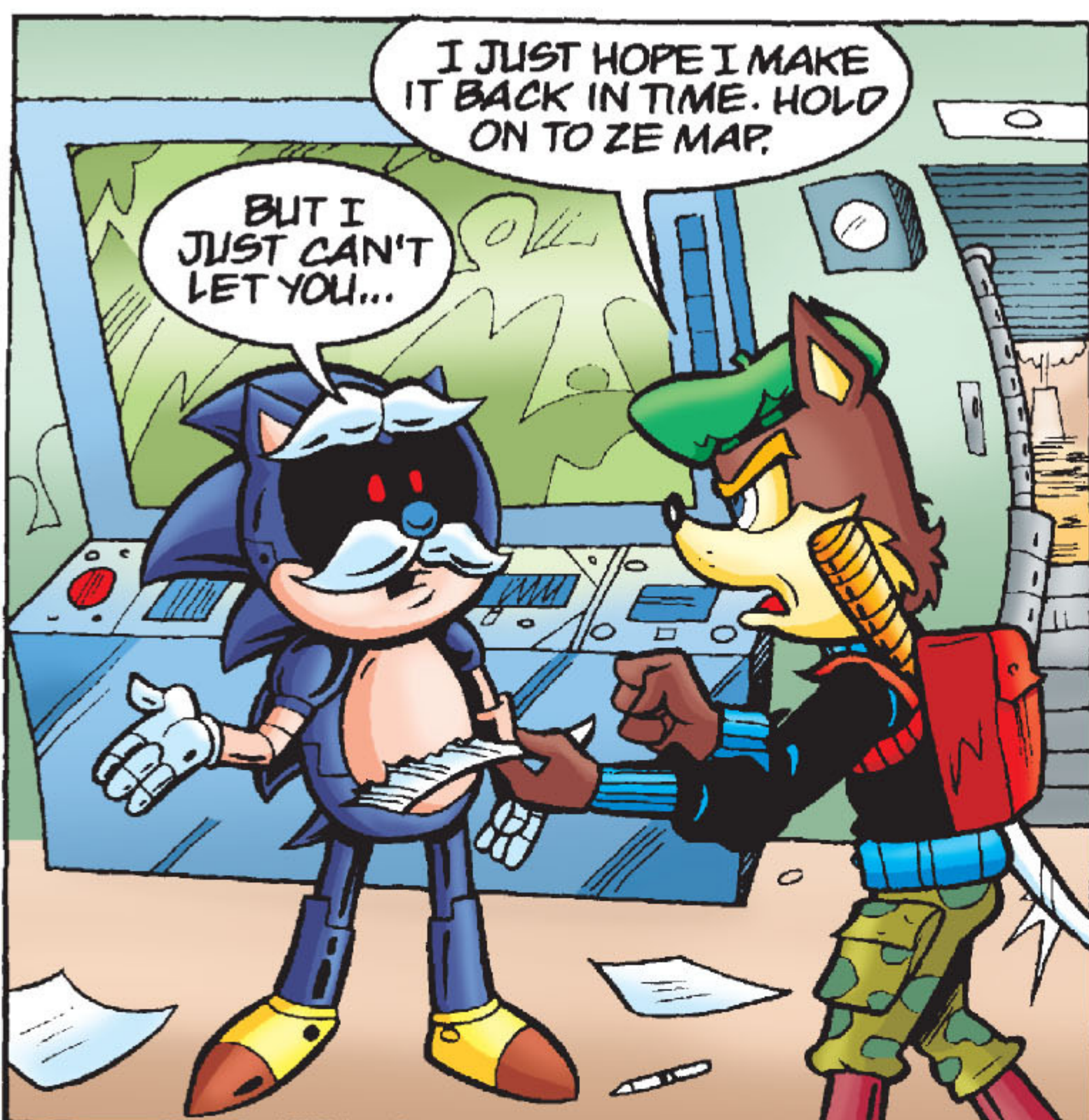
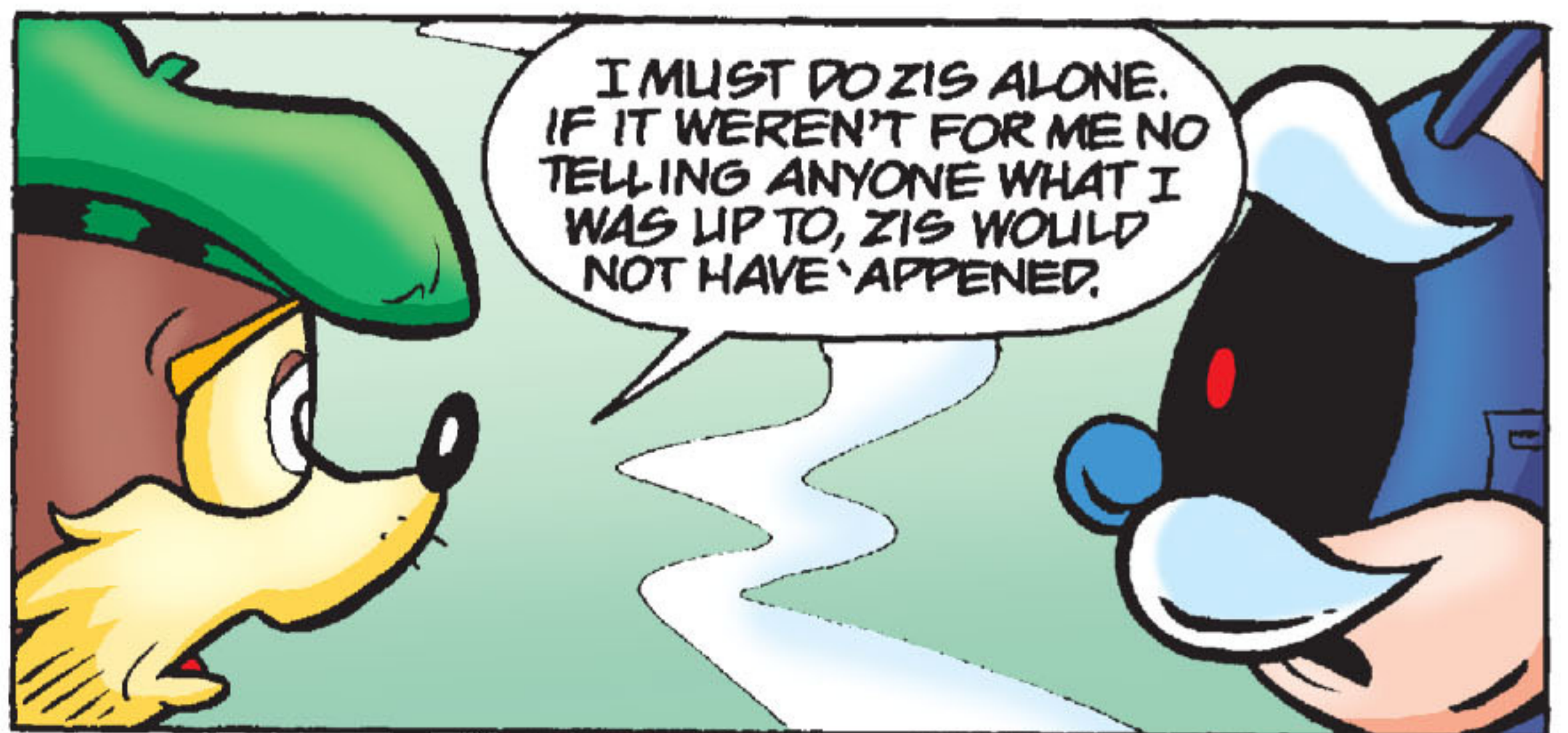
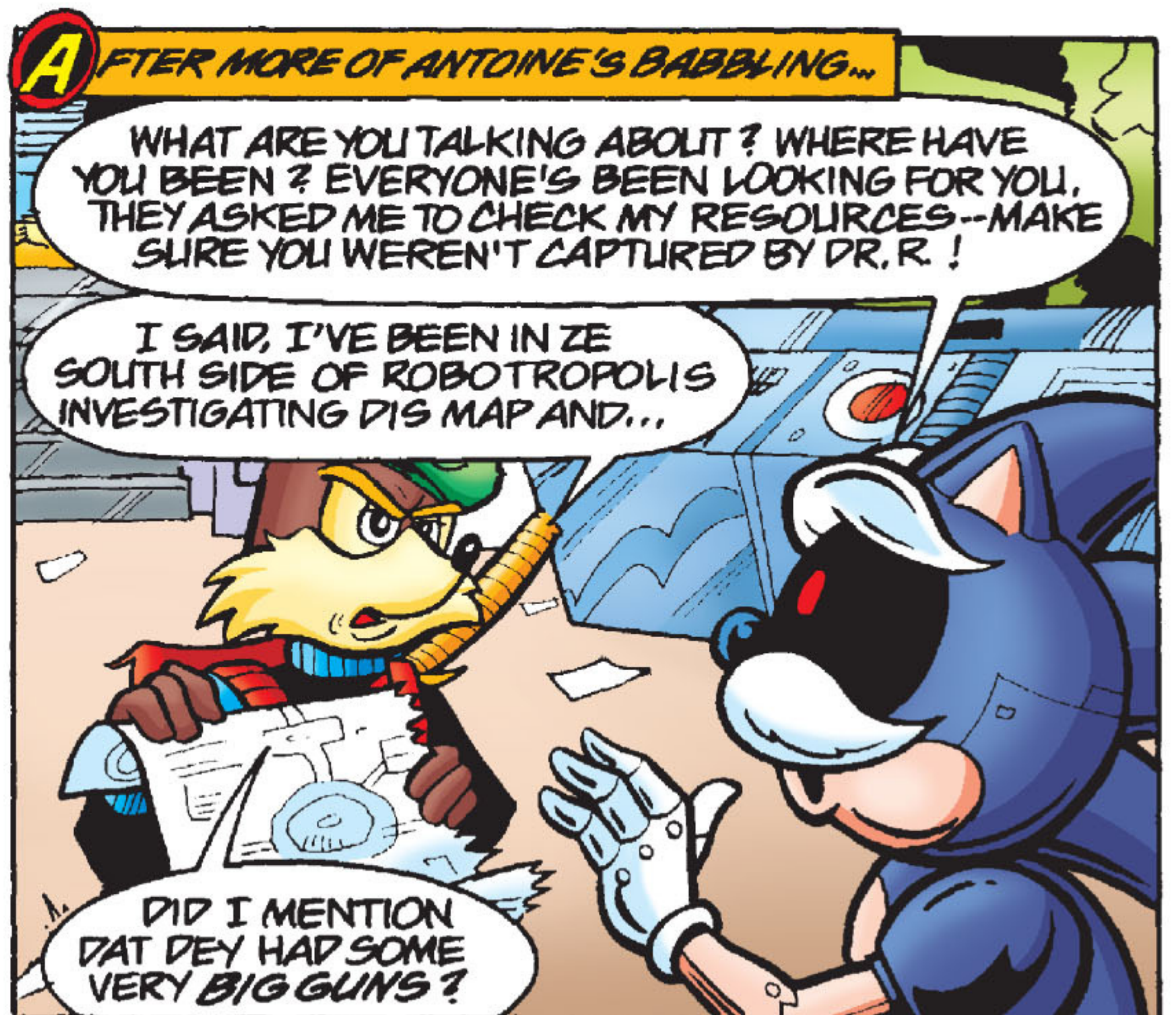
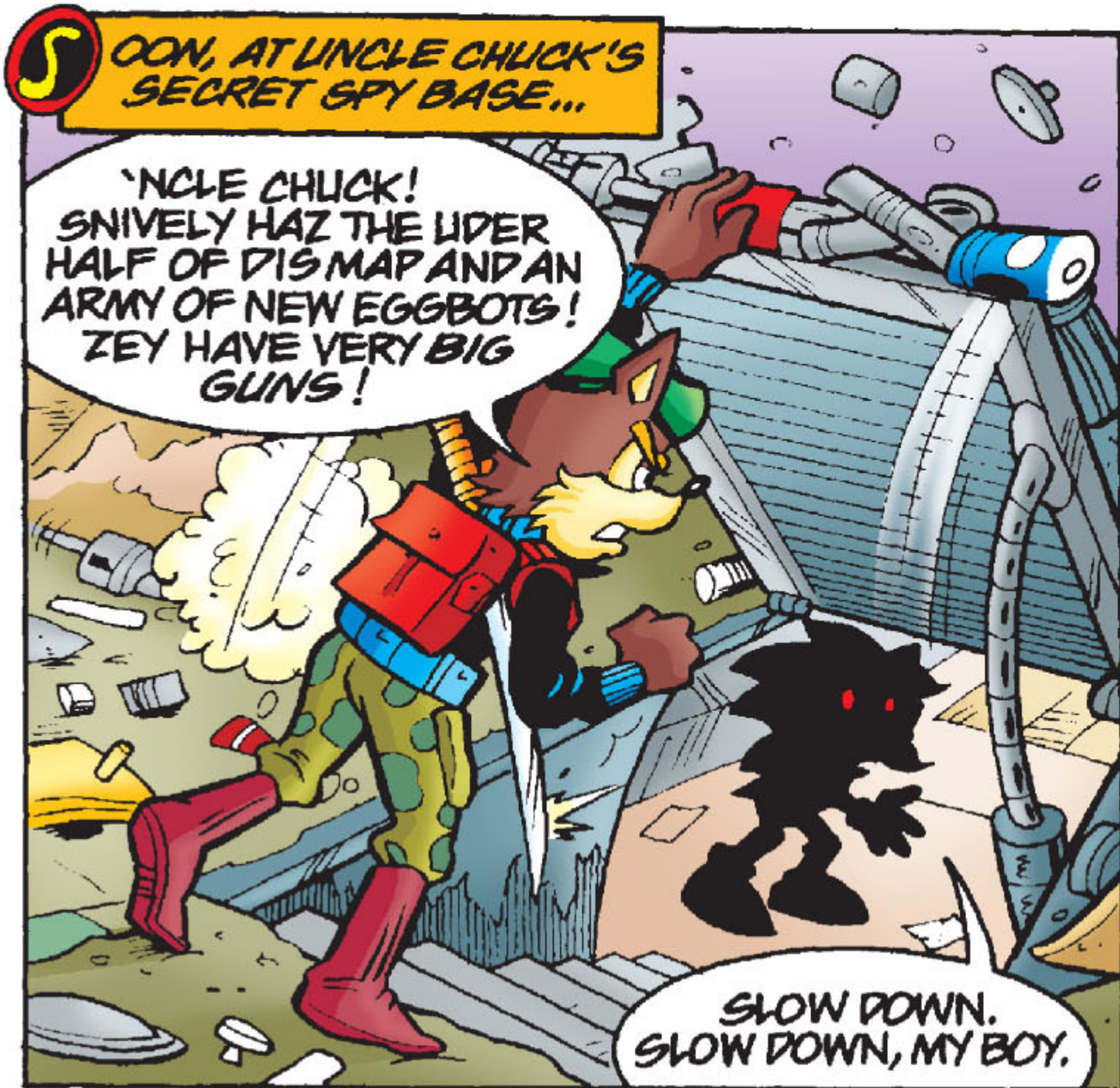
END OF
PART
ONE

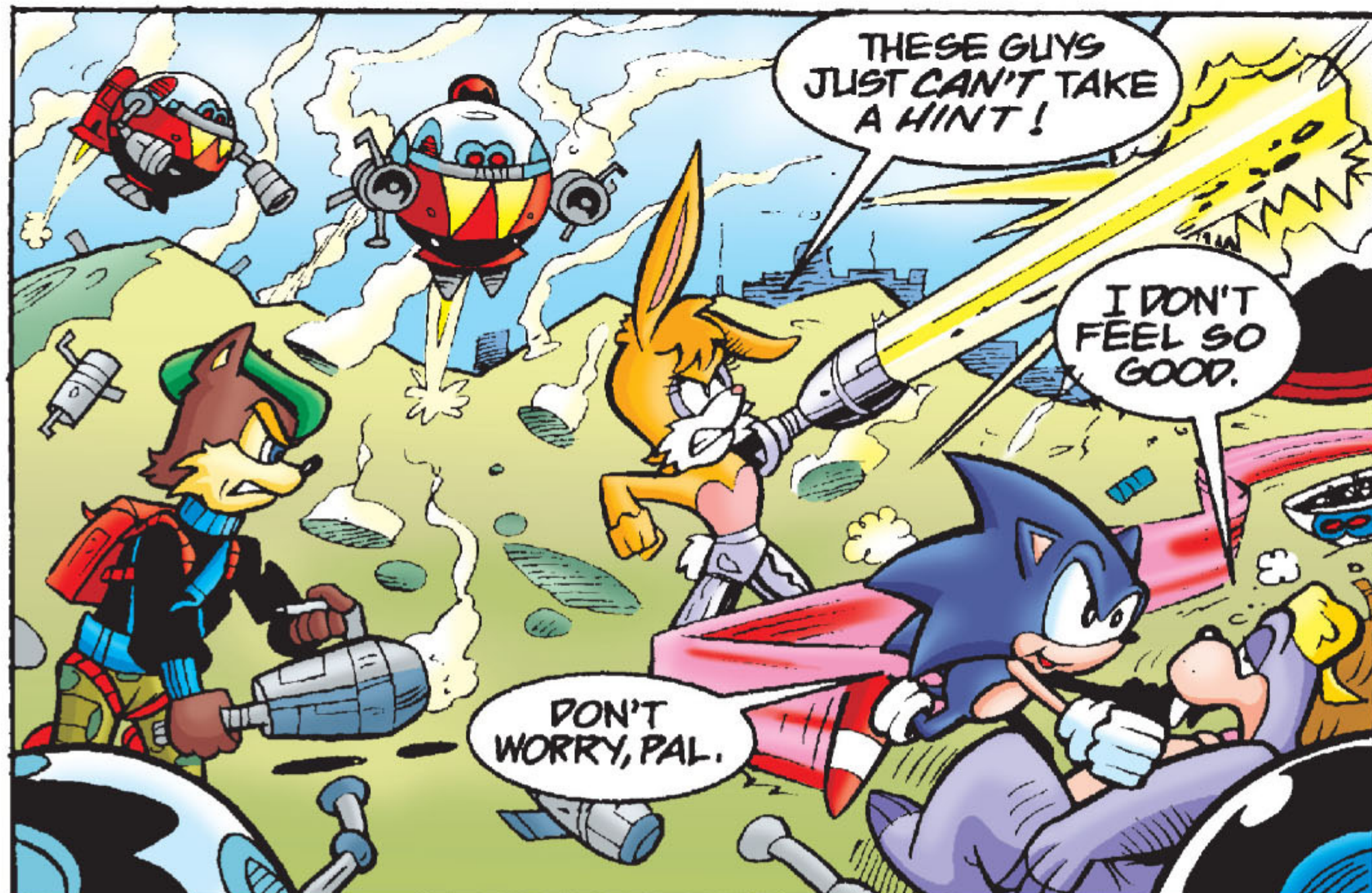
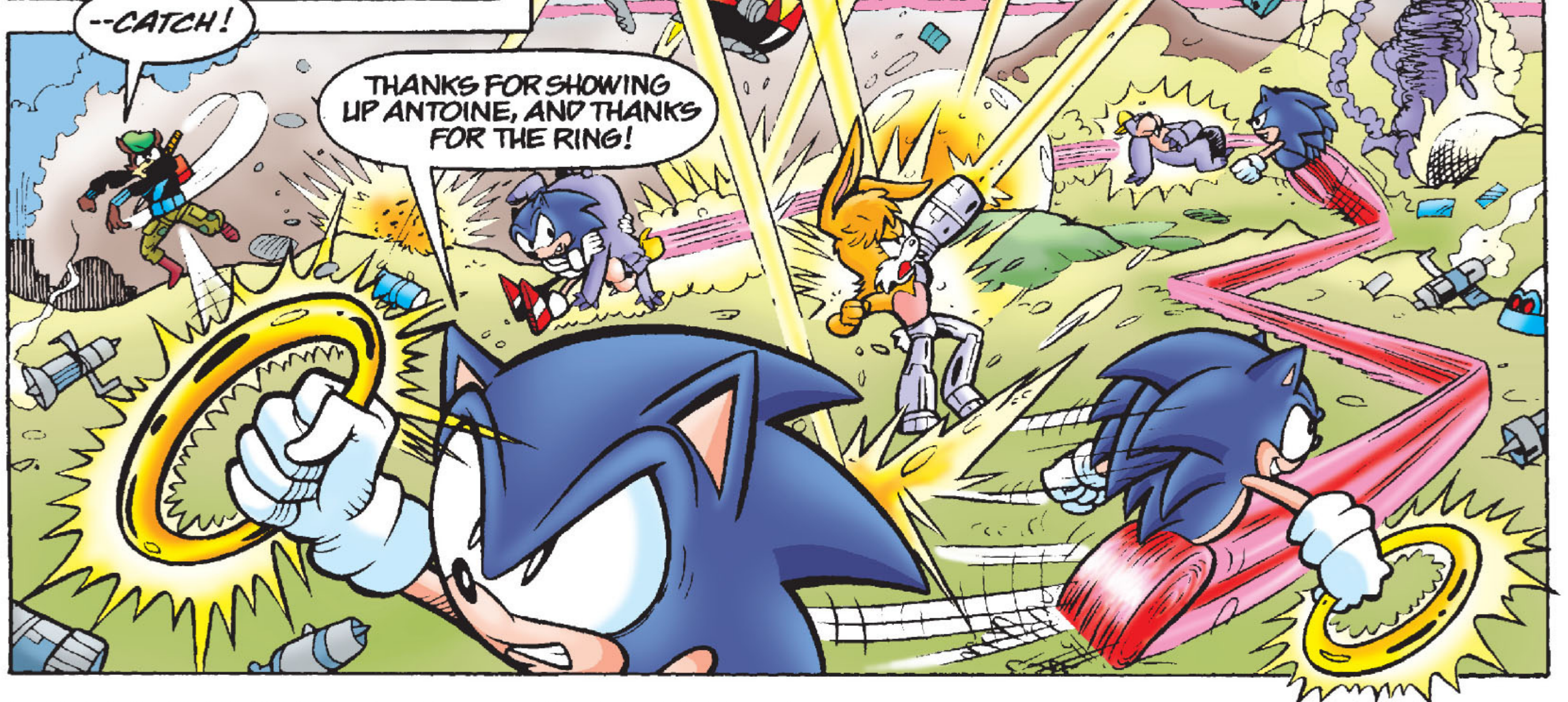
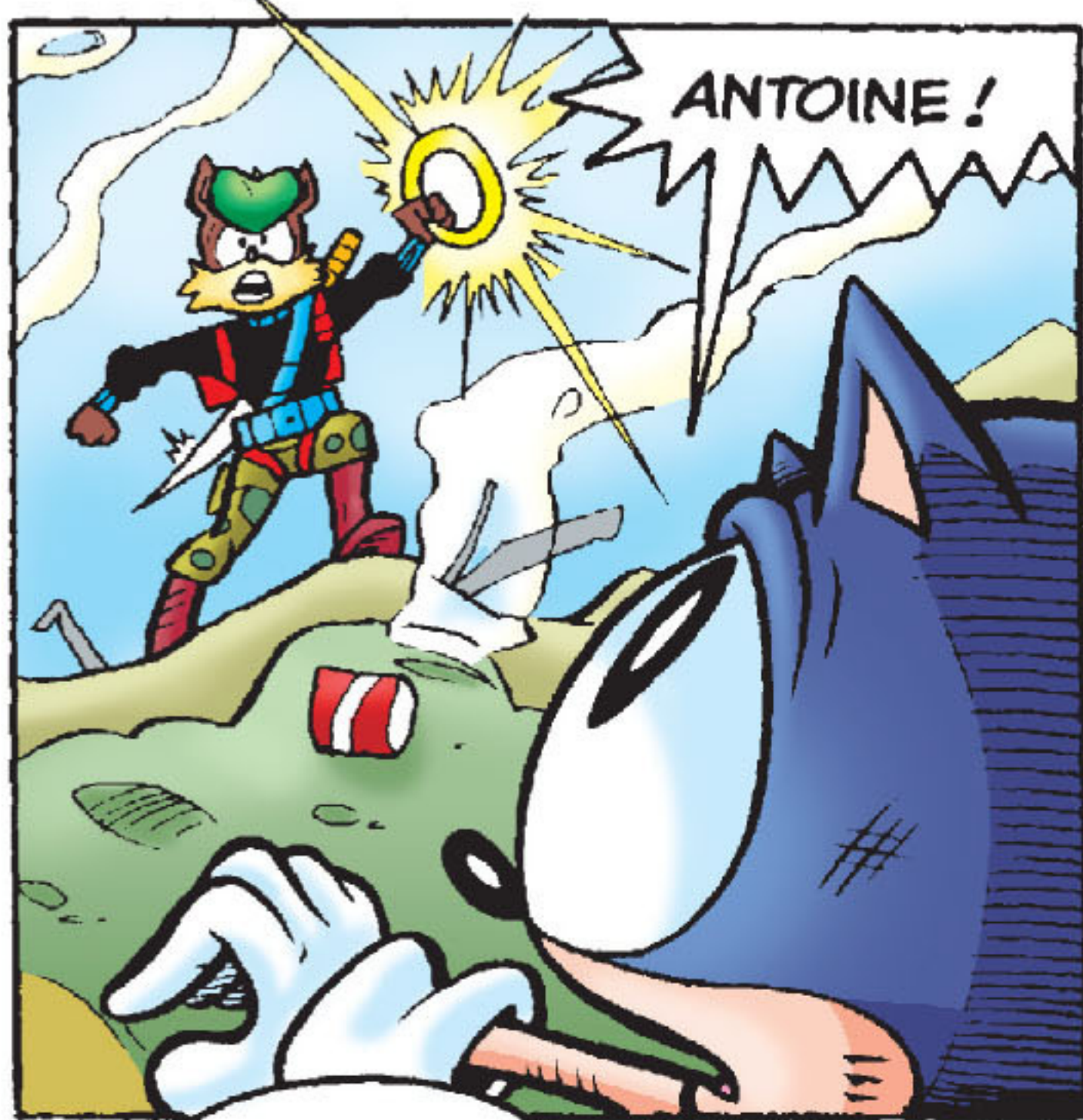


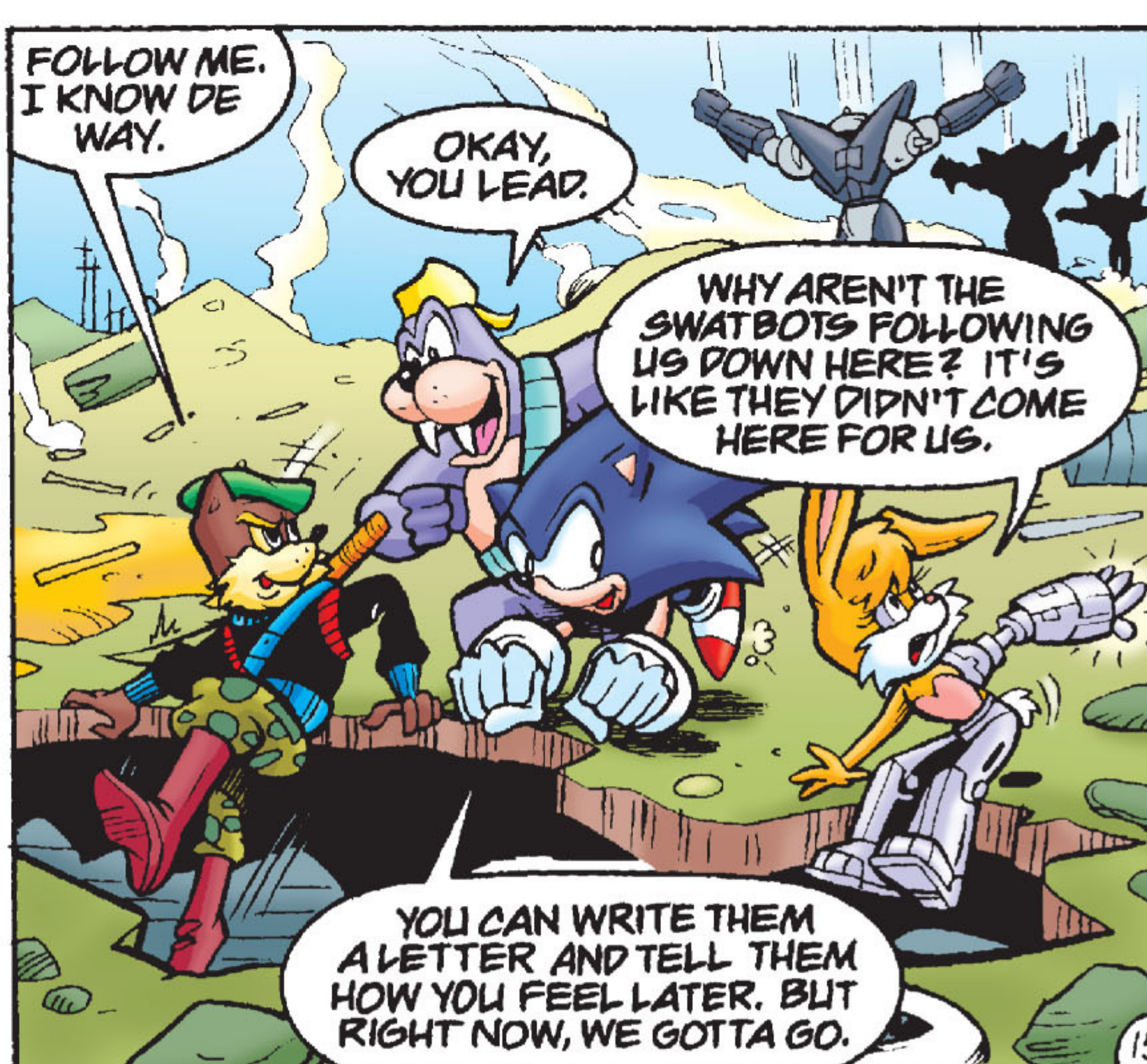
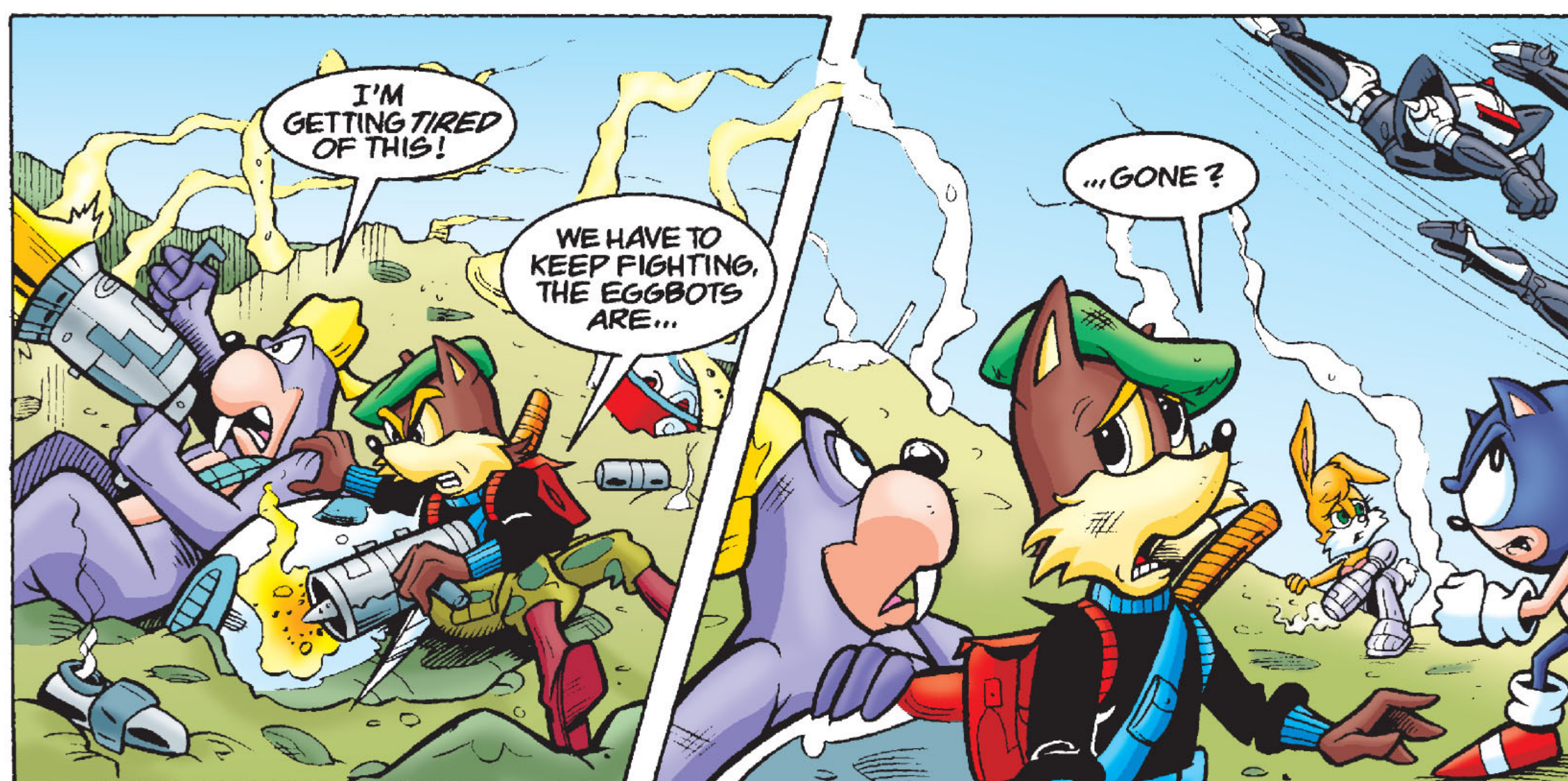
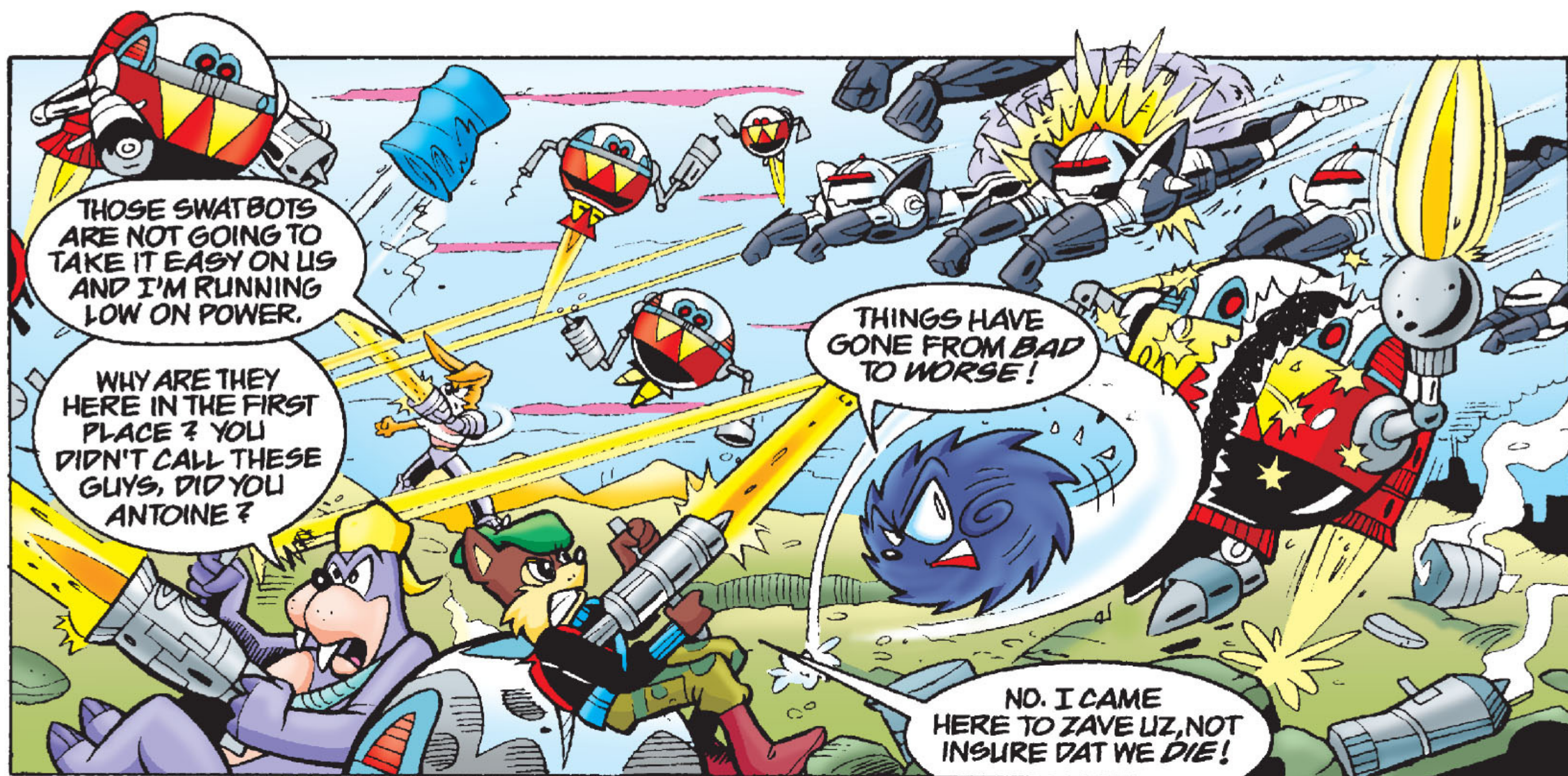


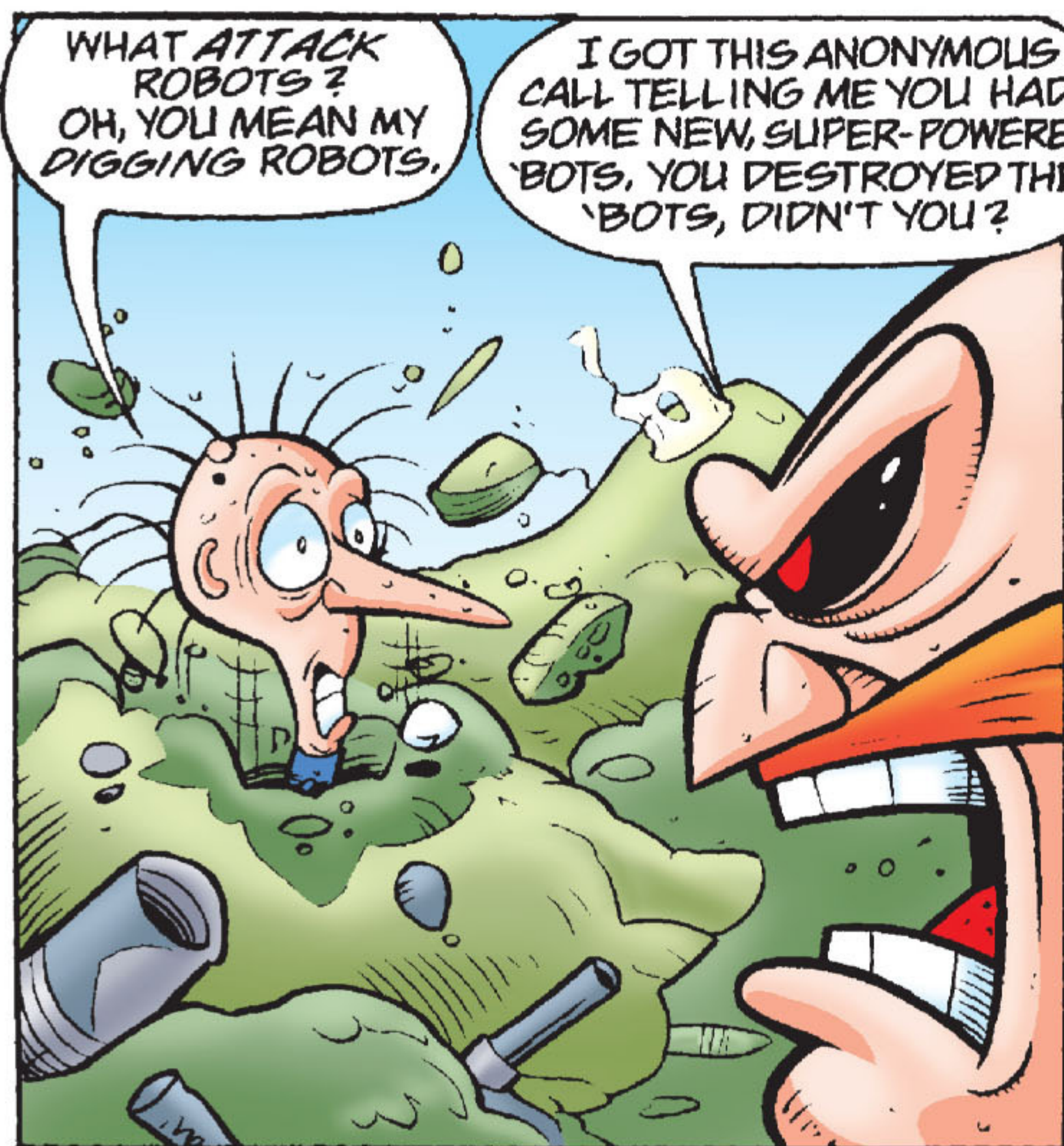
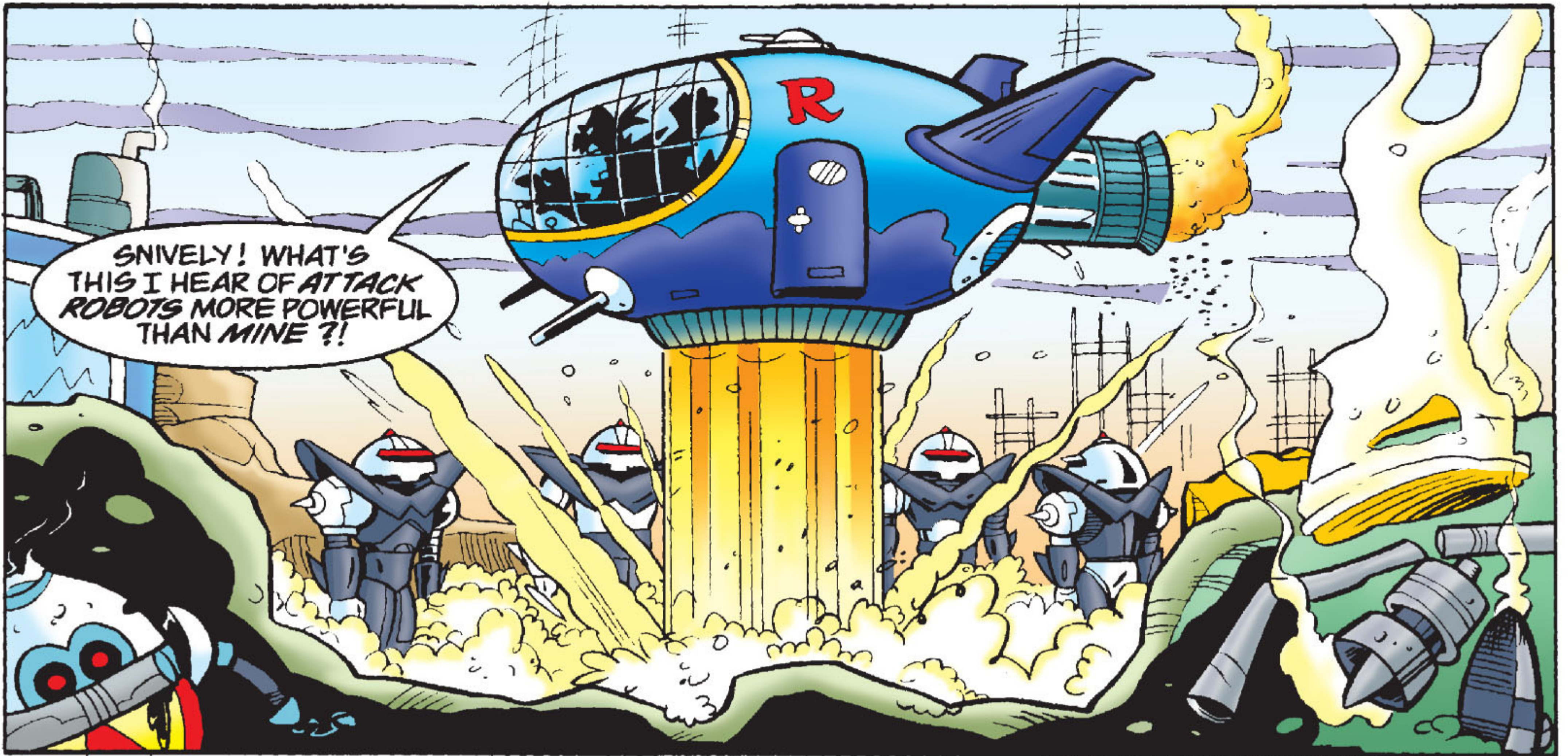












BACK IN KNOTHOLE...



SONIC vs. KNUCKLES™

BATTLE ROYAL



"BATTLE ROYAL!"

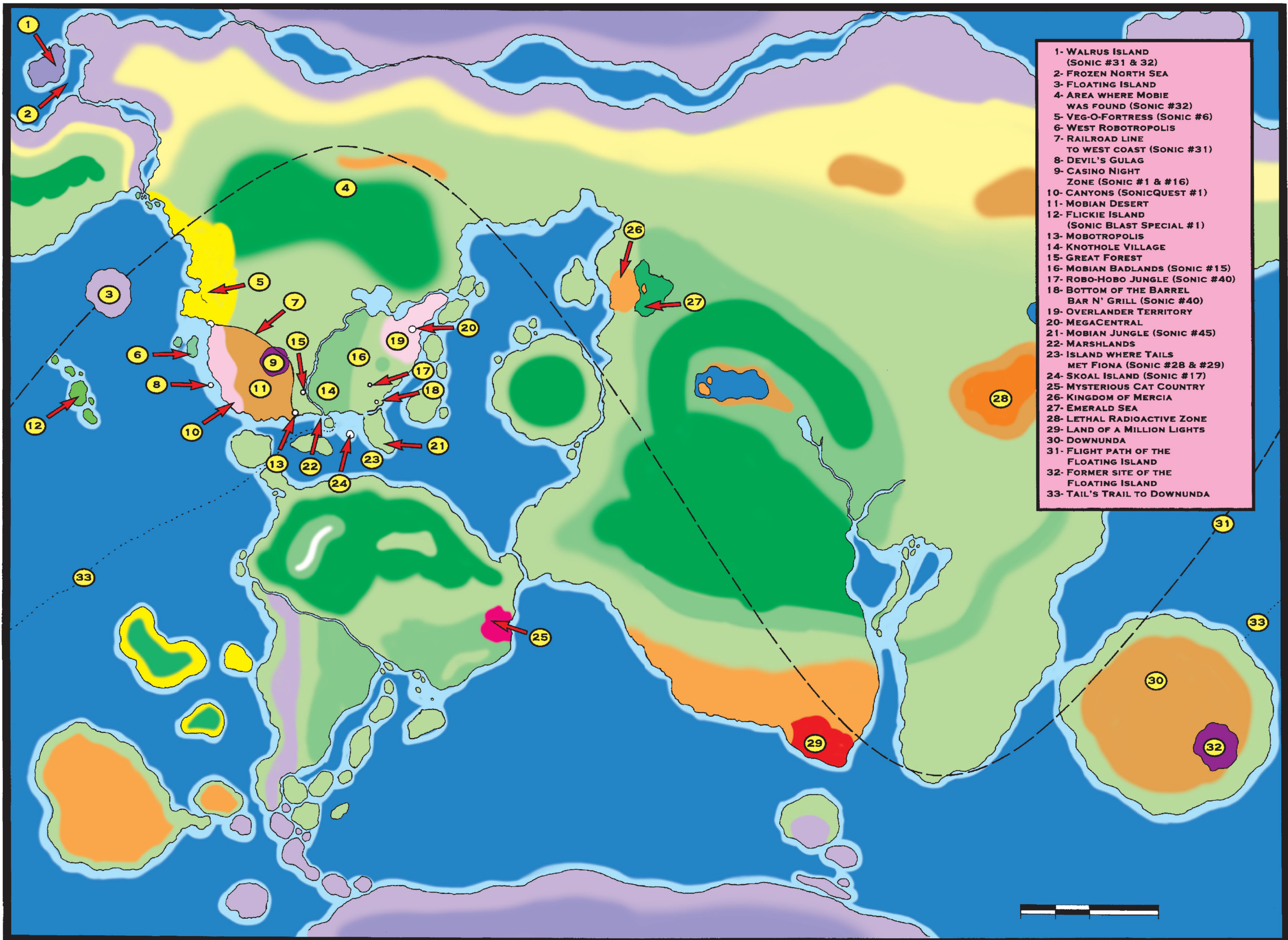
Kent Taylor & Ken Pender-Writers, Sam Maxwell-Penciler
Jim Amash-Inker, Karl Bollers-Colorist, Jeff Powell-Letterer

"THE MAP"

Tom Rolston-Writer, Dave Manak-Penciler, Rich Koslowski-Inker
Barry Grossman-Colorist, Vickie Williams-Letterer

J. Freddy Gabrie-Editor, Victor Gorelick-Managing Editor
Richard Goldwater-Editor-In-Chief

SPECIAL THANKS to Susan Suarez and Helen Ball



Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES
NO.2 US \$2.00
CAN \$2.50

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

BRAVE NEW WORLD

**48
PAGES**



It's a
BRAVE NEW WORLD

with new problems... and new threats for

SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG™

and his friends!

As chronicled by
Ken Penders
with colors by Barry Grossman

Cover Concept and Frontispiece Art by
Patrick Spaziante

Cover Painting by Ken Penders

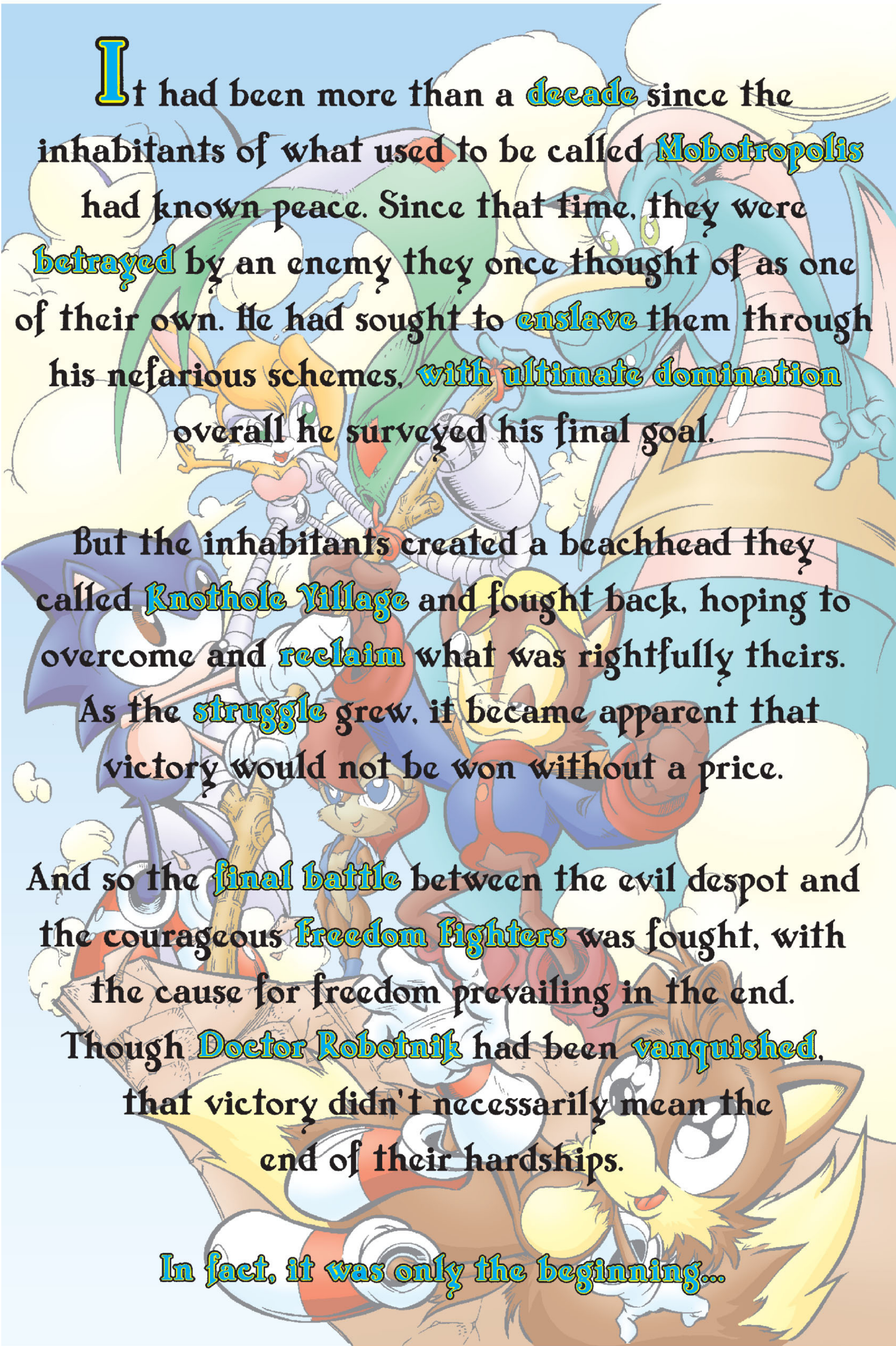
Text Art by Sam Maxwell

& Harvey Mercadoocasio

J. Freddy Gabrie, Editor
Victor Gorelick, Managing Editor
Richard Goldwater, Editor-In-Chief

Enter now... the world of THE BLUE!





It had been more than a **decade** since the inhabitants of what used to be called **Mobotropolis** had known peace. Since that time, they were **betrayed** by an enemy they once thought of as one of their own. He had sought to **enslave** them through his nefarious schemes, **with ultimate domination** overall he surveyed his final goal.

But the inhabitants created a beachhead they called **Knothole Village** and fought back, hoping to overcome and **reclaim** what was rightfully theirs. As the **struggle** grew, it became apparent that victory would not be won without a price.

And so the **final battle** between the evil despot and the courageous **Freedom Fighters** was fought, with the cause for freedom prevailing in the end. Though **Doctor Robotnik** had been **vanquished**, that victory didn't necessarily mean the end of their hardships.

In fact, it was only the beginning...

THIS IS THE
PLANET *MOBIUS*,
A WORLD FULL OF
INCREDIBLE
WONDERS AND
SURPRISES...

AND OF ALL WHO DWELLED
UPON ITS SURFACE, NONE
WERE MORE RENOWNED
THAN THOSE WHO LIVED IN
THE FABLED CITY OF
MOBOTROPOLIS...

... WHICH WAS GOVERNED
BY THE BENEVOLENT AND
MUCH BELOVED *KING*
AND *QUEEN ACORN*.

THEIR DAUGHTER *SALLY* PROVIDED
A SHINING BEACON OF HOPE FOR
THE *NEXT GENERATION*!

UNFORTUNATELY,
THERE WERE THOSE
WHO WOULD WAGE
WAR AGAINST THE
KINGDOM FOR
THEIR OWN *SELF-
ISH* PURPOSES.

IT WAS DURING
THE *WAR* AGAINST
THE *OVERLANDERS*
THAT *QUEEN ACORN*
MYSTERIOUSLY BE-
CAME A CASUALTY,
HER TRUE FATE
UNKNOWN.

THE *KING*'S FORCES, LED BY THE *WARLORD JULIAN*, MAN-
AGED TO OVERCOME AND PRESERVE THE *KINGDOM*...

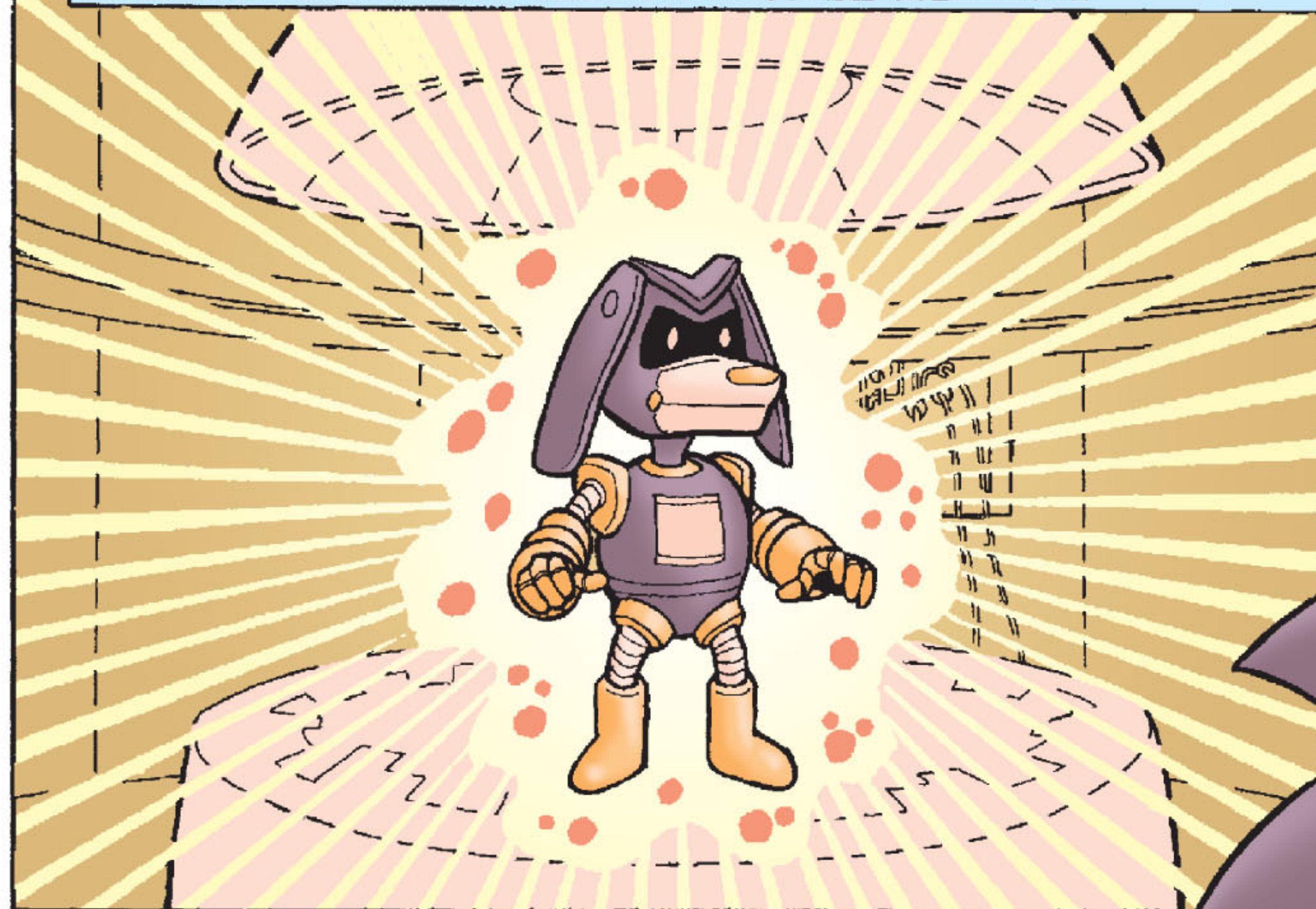
HOWEVER, **WARLORD JULIAN** HAD PLANS OF HIS OWN.

THUS, RENOUNCING HIS HERITAGE, HE ADOPTED THE NAME OF **ROBOTNIK**--

--AND BANISHED **KING ACORN** INTO THE **ZONE OF SILENCE**!

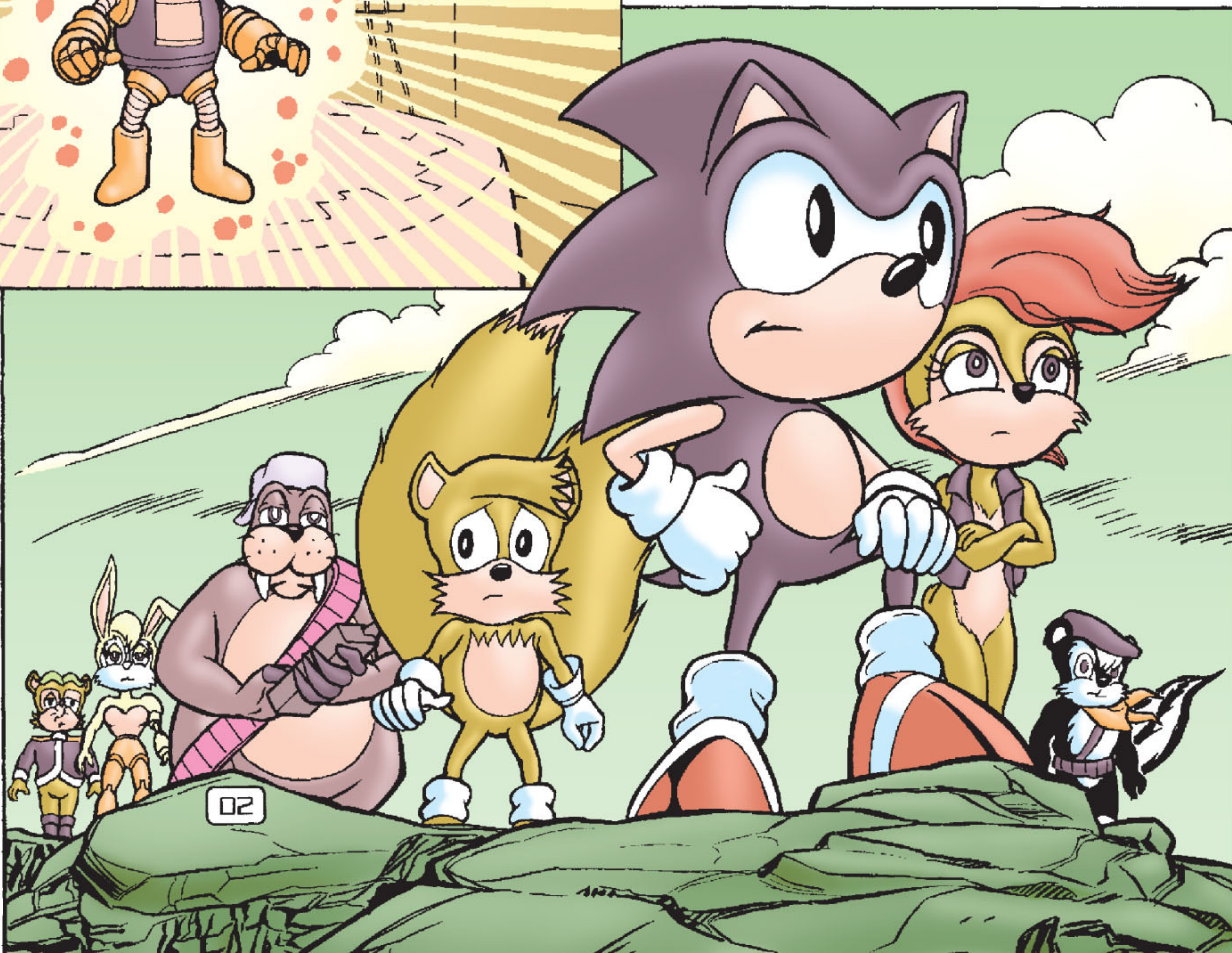
WITH THE KING OUT OF THE WAY, **ROBOTNIK** UTILIZED HIS ARMY OF **SWATBOTS** TO APPREHEND THE CITIZENS OF THE NOW RECHRISTENED **ROBOTROPOLIS**--

--UPON WHICH THEY WERE SUBJECTED TO THE **ROBOTICIZATION** PROCESS, WHICH NOT ONLY TRANSFORMED THEM FROM FUR AND BLOOD TO METAL AND CIRCUITS, BUT ALSO **ROBBED** THEM OF THEIR **FREE WILL** AS WELL!



ALL WAS NOT LOST, AS CHAMPIONS AROSE, SUCH AS **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** AND HIS FELLOW **FREEDOM FIGHTERS**, TO FIGHT THE EVIL SCHEMES OF THE **MAD DICTATOR**--

--EVENTUALLY OVERCOMING **IMPOSSIBLE** ODDS AND **OVERWHELMING** FORCES!



ROBOTNIK HAS BEEN VANQUISHED.

WHAT REMAINS TO BE DETERMINED--

-- IS AT WHAT *PRICE*.

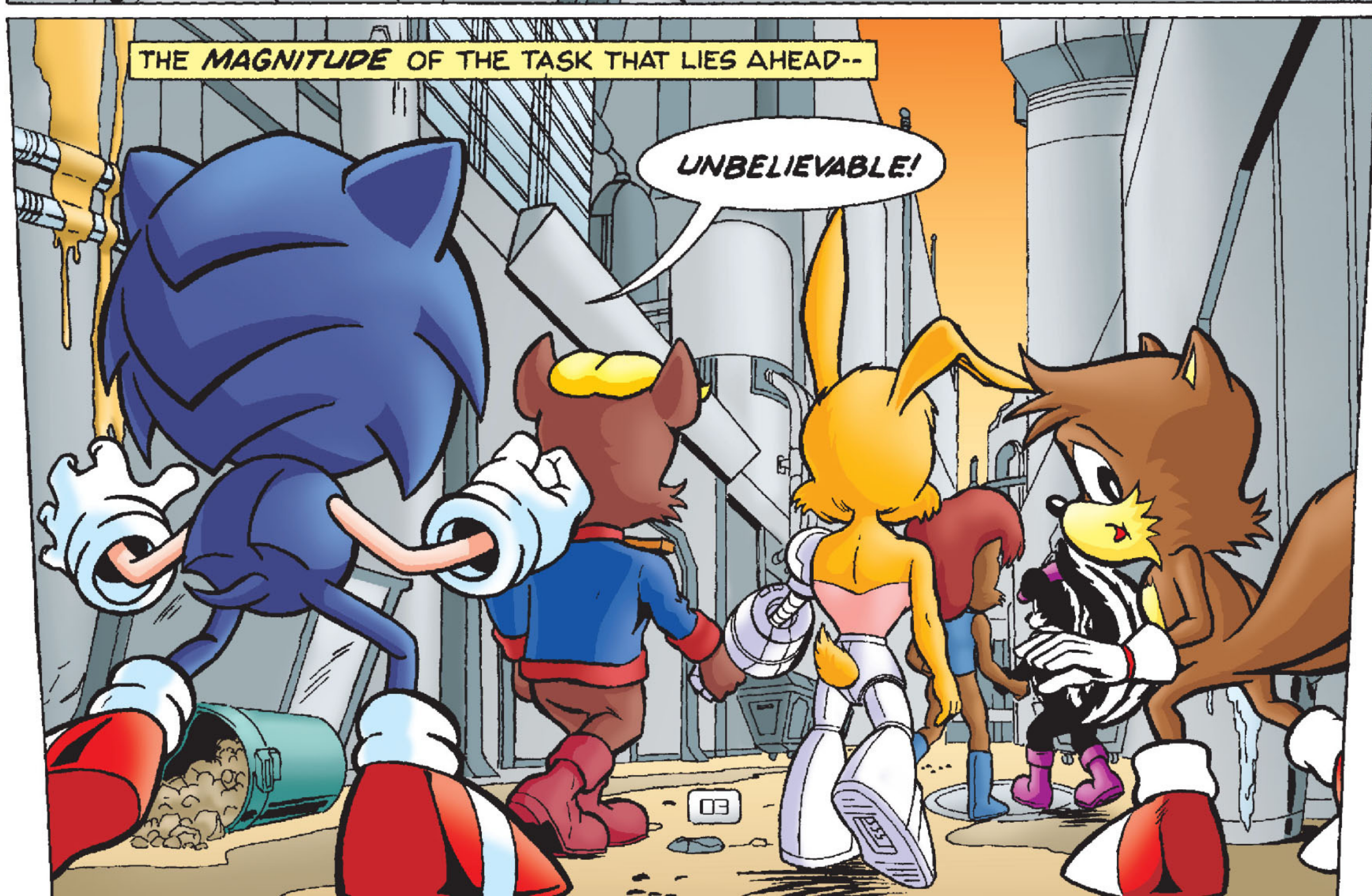
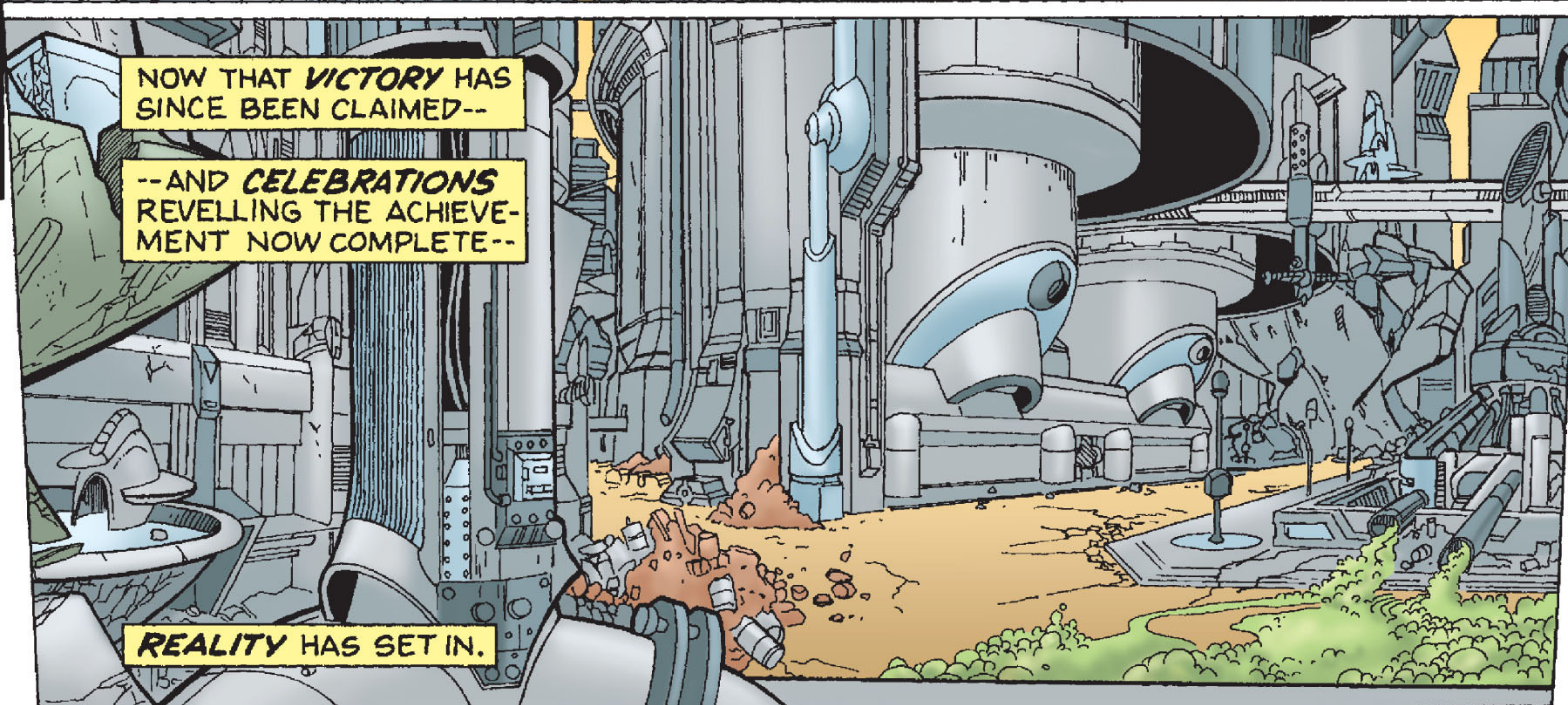
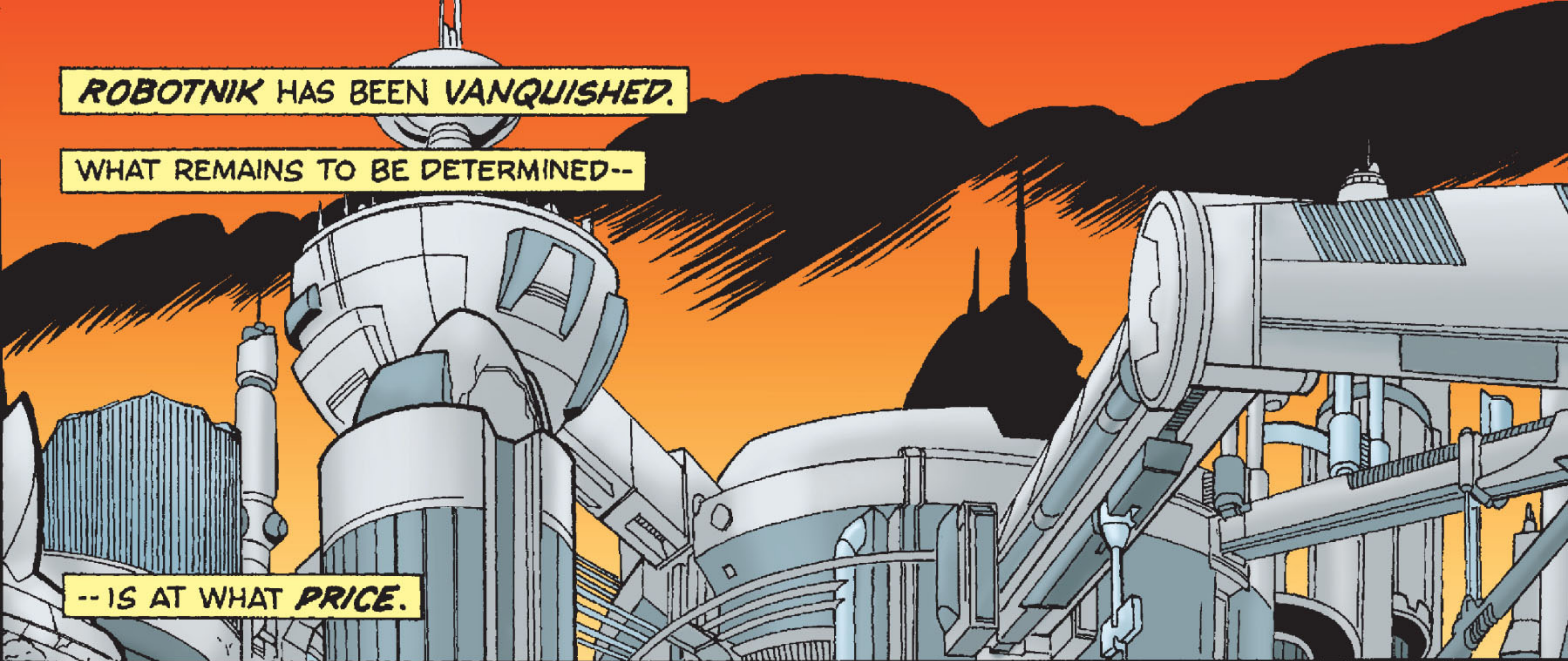
**NOW THAT *VICTORY* HAS
SINCE BEEN CLAIMED--**

**--AND *CELEBRATIONS*
REVELLING THE ACHIEVE-
MENT NOW COMPLETE--**

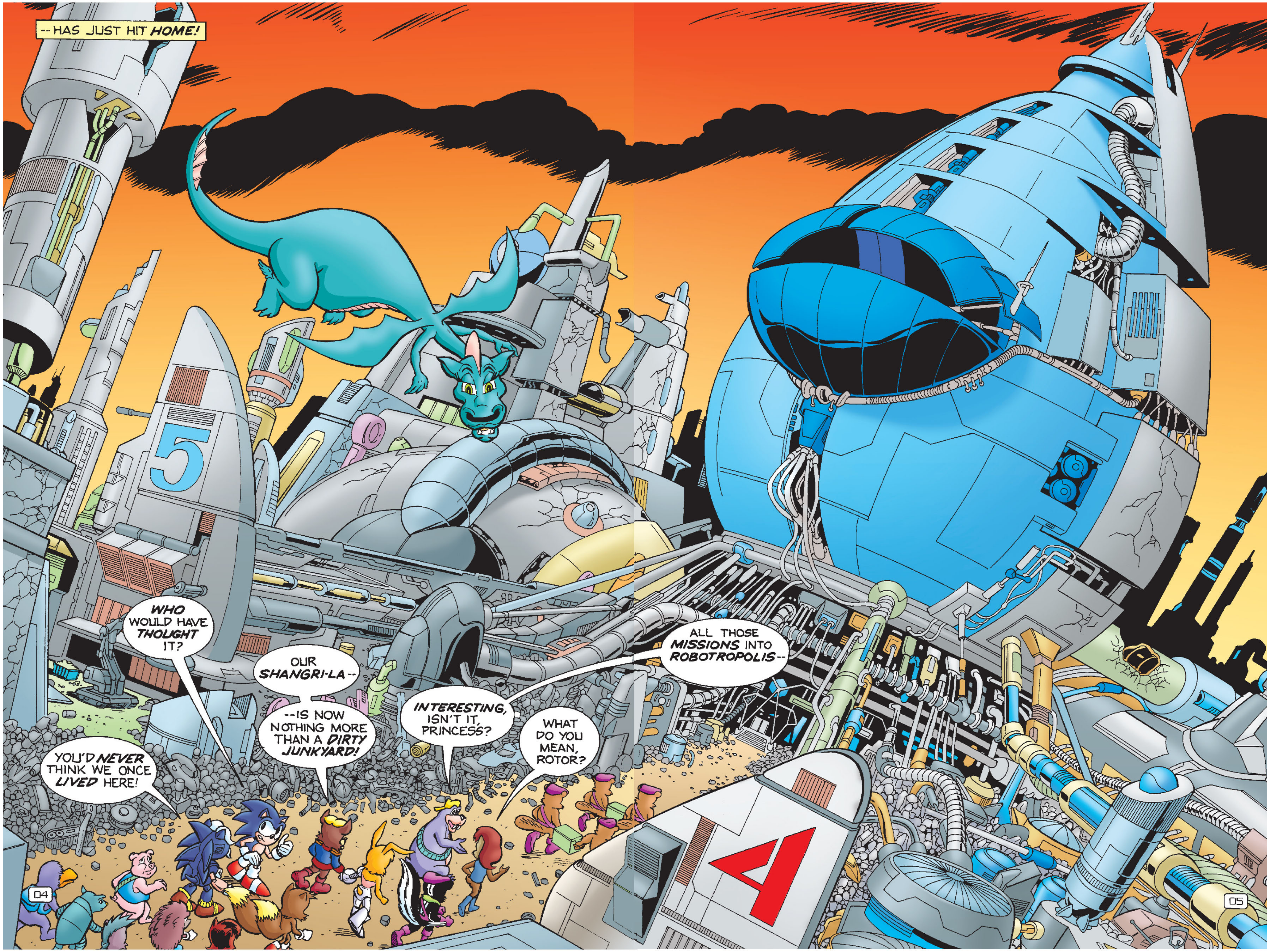
***REALITY* HAS SET IN.**

THE *MAGNITUDE* OF THE TASK THAT LIES AHEAD--

UNBELIEVABLE!



-- HAS JUST HIT HOME!



WHO
WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT
IT?

OUR
SHANGRI-LA--

--IS NOW
NOTHING MORE
THAN A *DIRTY*
JUNKYARD!

INTERESTING,
ISN'T IT,
PRINCESS?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
ROTOR?

ALL THOSE
MISSIONS INTO
ROBOTROPOLIS--

YOU'D *NEVER*
THINK WE ONCE
LIVED HERE!

--AND YET WE NEVER REALLY CONTEMPLATED THE **SIGNIFICANCE** OF ROBOTNIK'S ACTIONS ON A **PERSONAL** LEVEL!

THE **MISSION** ALWAYS COMES **FIRST**, MATE!

I'M AFRAID GEOFFREY'S **RIGHT**, ROTOR!

ONCE AGAIN--

--THE **MISSION**--ALONG WITH THE **GREATER GOOD**--COMES **BEFORE** ALL ELSE!

--WE MUST PUT ASIDE OUR FEELINGS AND **CONCENTRATE** ON THE TASK AT HAND!

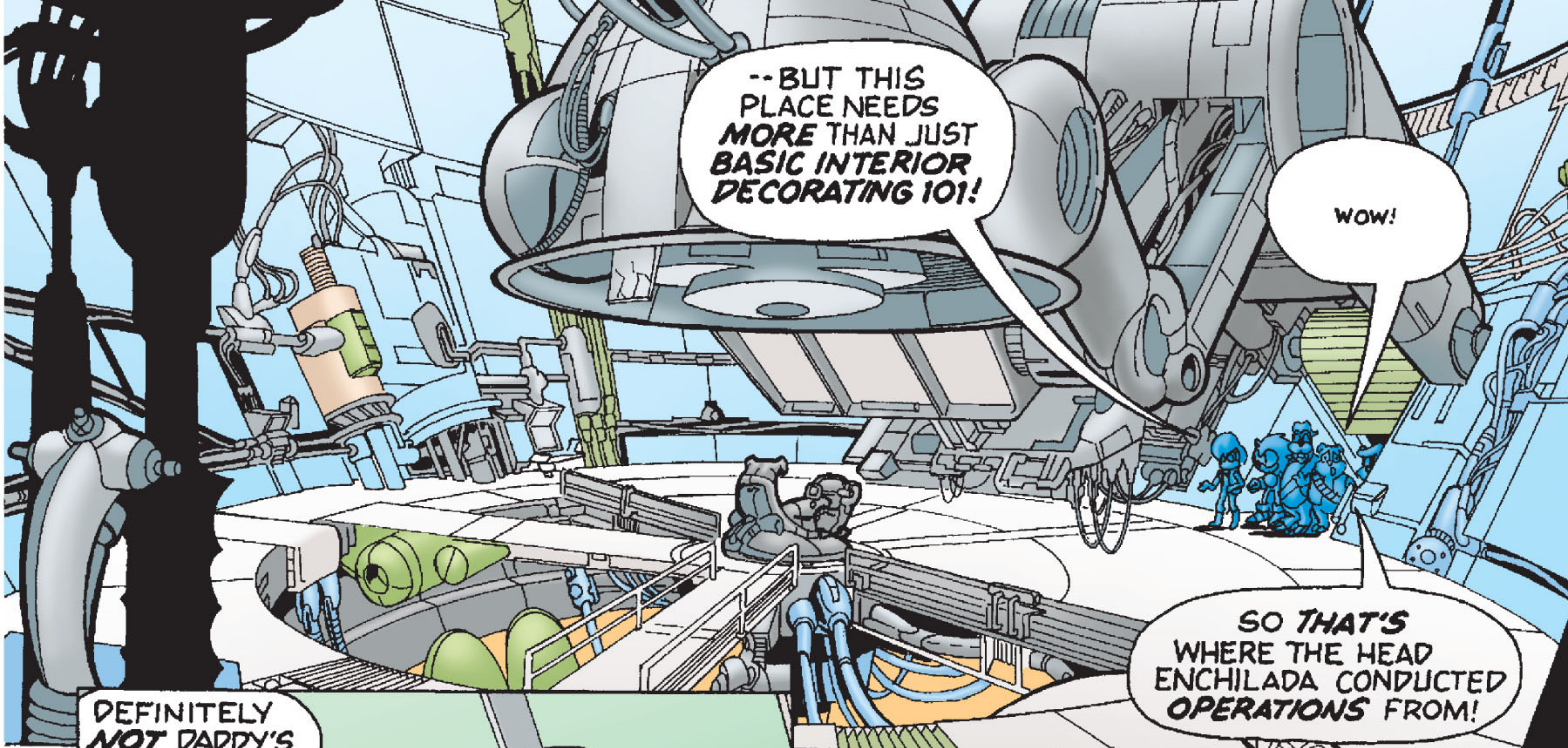
NO MATTER HOW MUCH THE **SIGHT** OF ALL THIS **AFFECTS** US PERSONALLY--

STARTING **HERE**--AT THE **PALACE**--

NOTHING THAT SOME **LIGHTS** AND A **PAINT JOB** CAN'T **CURE**, SLUGAH!

I HATE TO SAY IT, BLUNNIE--

REAL **SPOOKY**!



-- BUT THIS PLACE NEEDS MORE THAN JUST BASIC INTERIOR DECORATING 101!

WOW!

SO THAT'S WHERE THE HEAD ENCHILADA CONDUCTED OPERATIONS FROM!

DEFINITELY *NOT* DADDY'S STYLE!

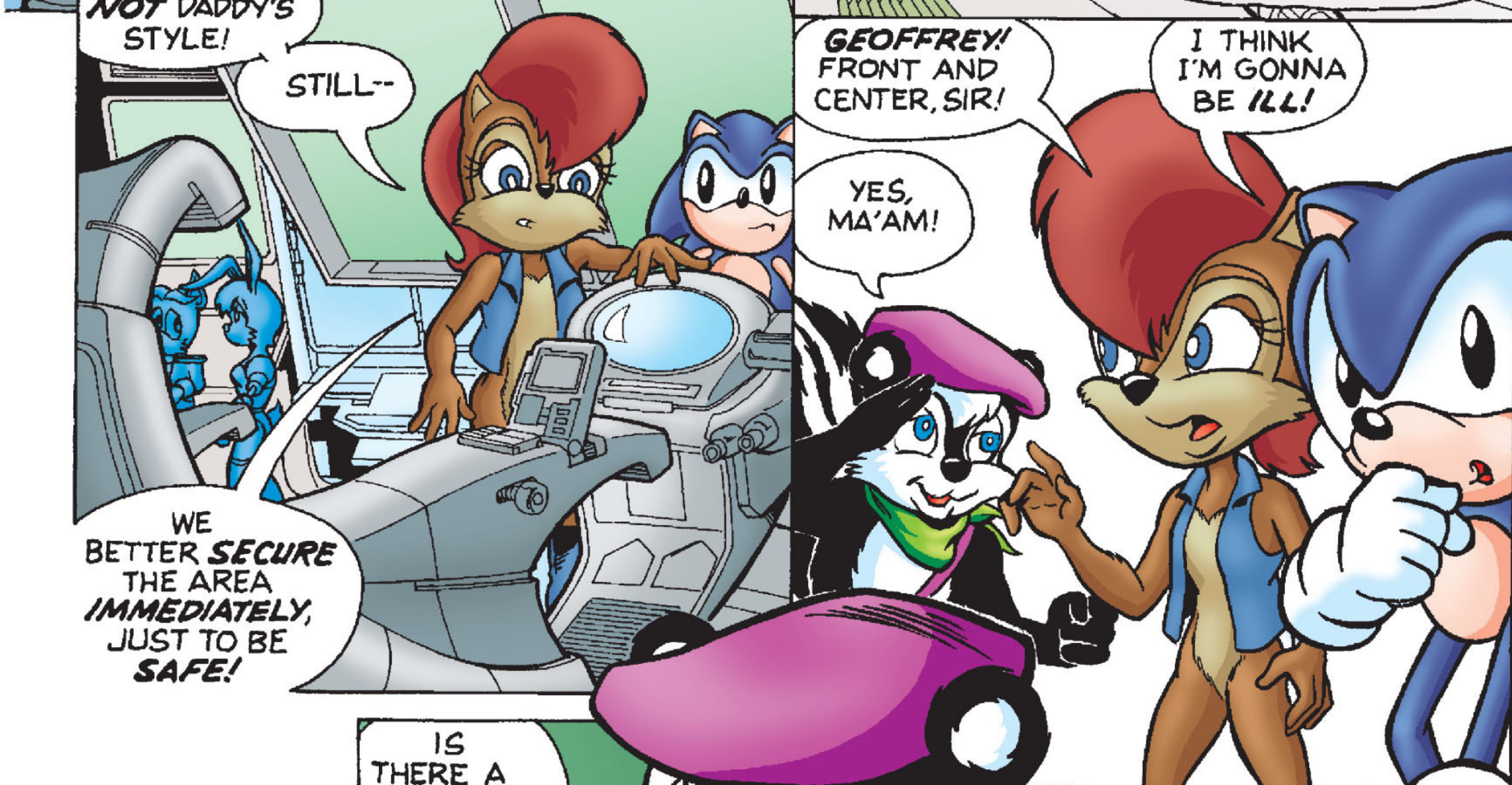
STILL--

GEOFFREY! FRONT AND CENTER, SIR!

I THINK I'M GONNA BE *ILL*!

YES, MA'AM!

WE BETTER *SECURE* THE AREA *IMMEDIATELY*, JUST TO BE *SAFE*!



IS THERE A *PROBLEM*, MATE?

WHAT WAS *THAT*?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I THINK I'M DOWN TO *EIGHT* LIVES JUST *HEARING* IT!

YEAH! I HAVE A REAL *PAIN* IN--



SONIC! THIS *ISN'T* THE TIME FOR--

IT SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM SOMEWHERE *CLOSE BY*!

WOOFEEHR!

**LOOK
OUT!!**



DAAAM!

*** FIRST SEEN IN
SONIC ARCHIVES
VOL.8 - EDITOR**

LOOKS LIKE THE OL'
HEDGEHOG HAS TO
DO IT TO IT!

REALLY?
THAT'LL BE
THE DAY!

ALL YOU
NEED IS
ONE GOOD
BOLT--

BOING!

K-TANG!

К-ШАКТ!

**ZUT
ALORS!**

Whrrr...whrrr...

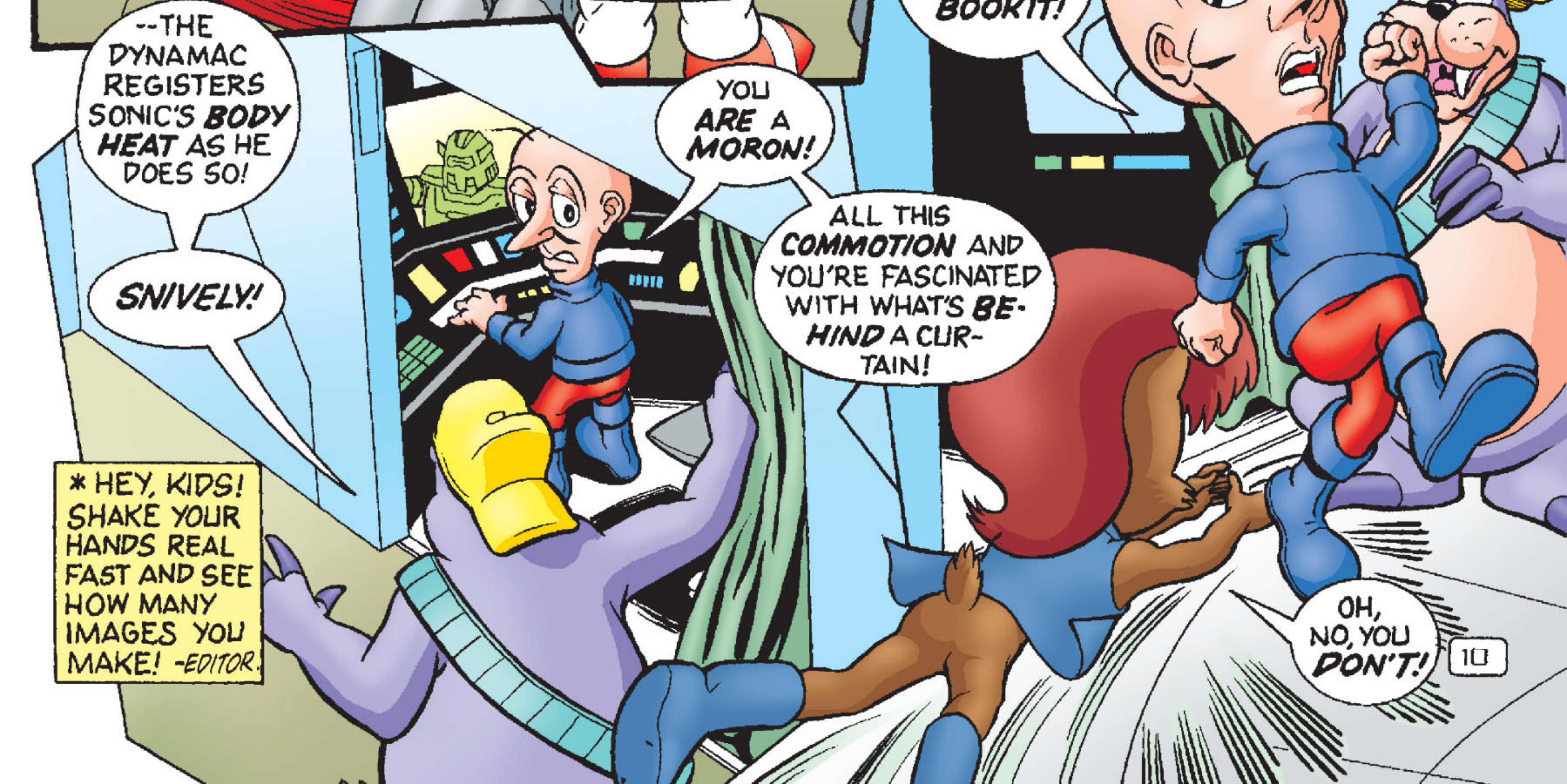
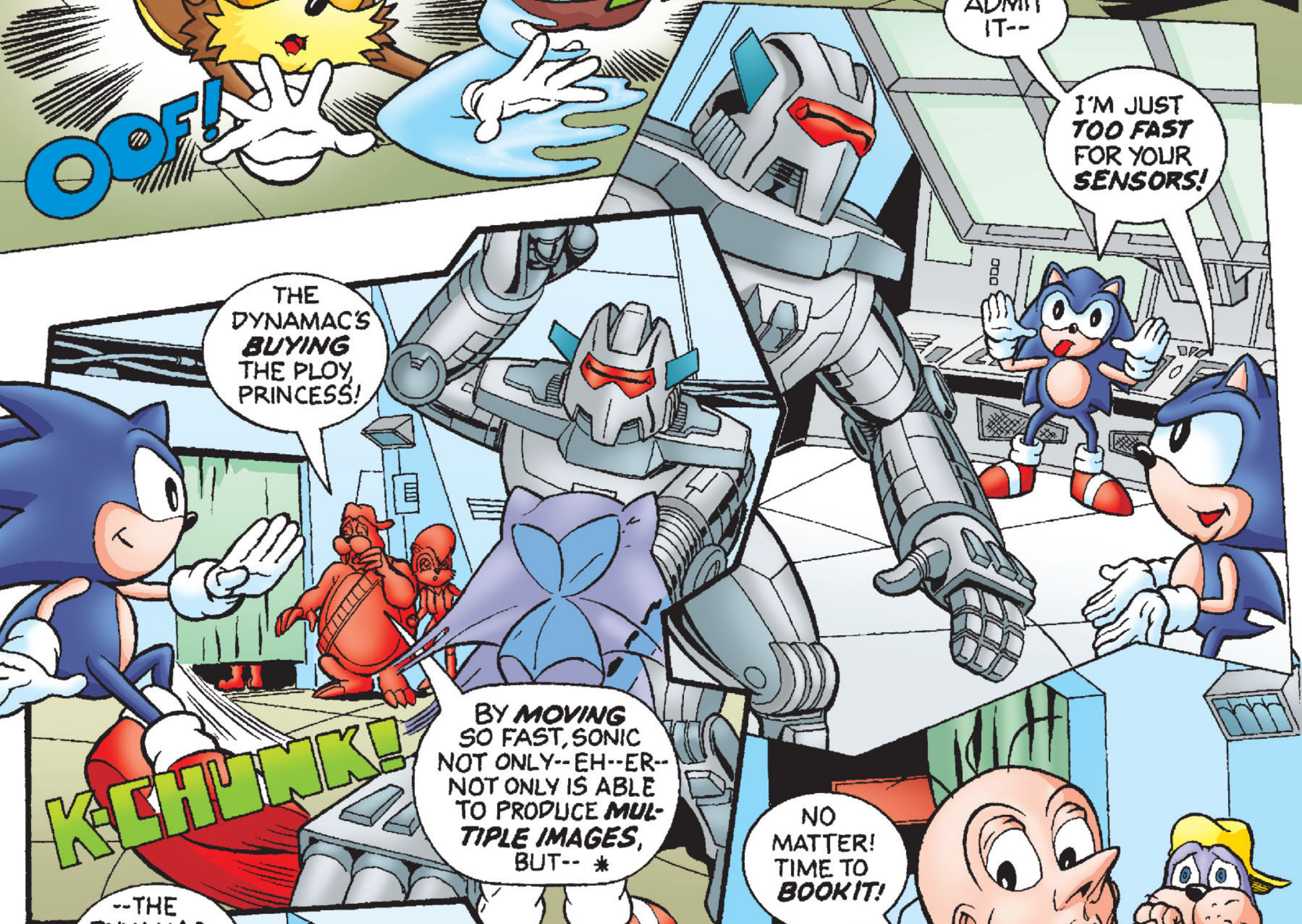
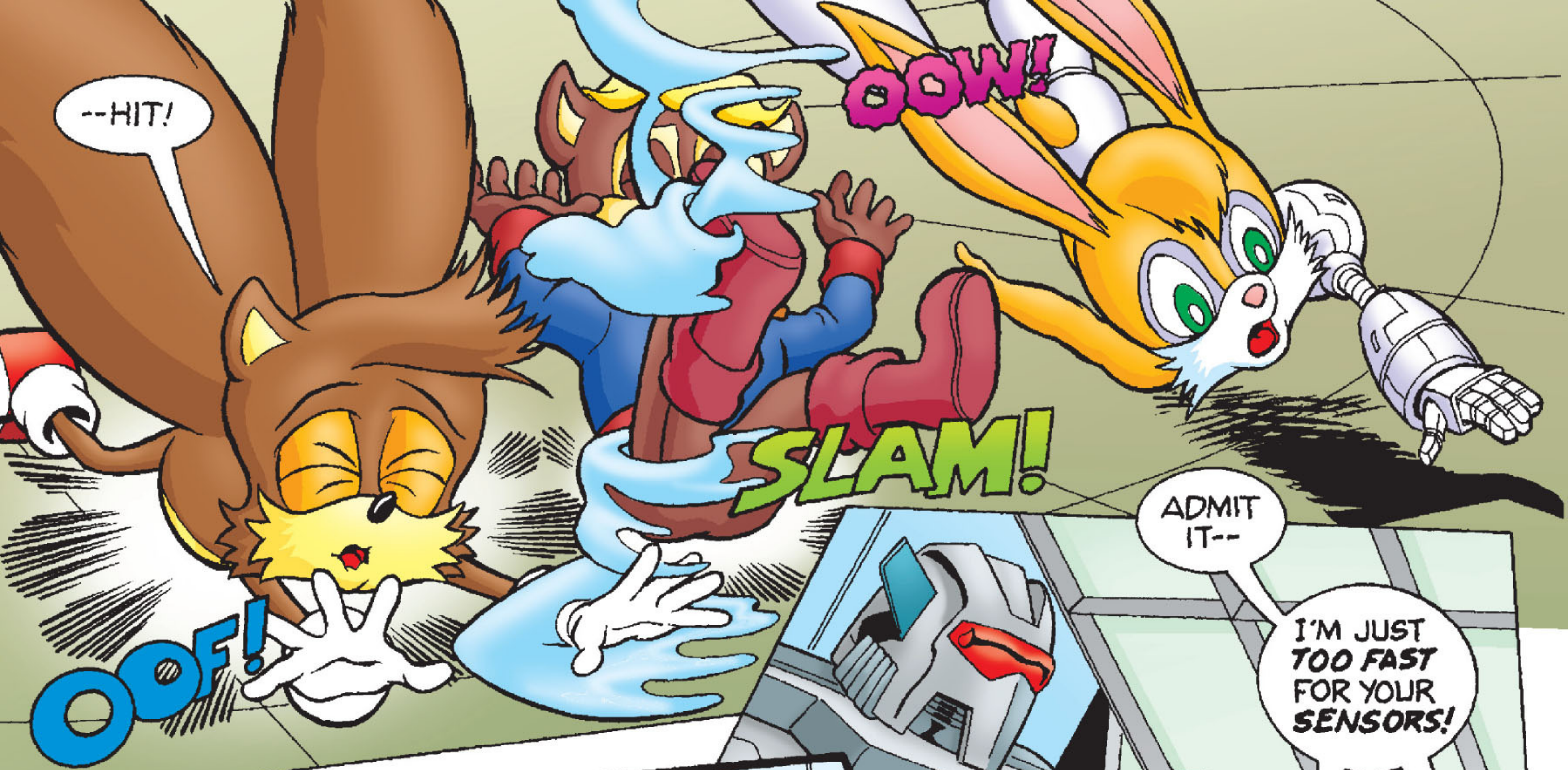
WE HAVE
TO **DRAW** THE
DYNAMAC'S
ATTENTION--
TRY TO **CON-**
FUSE IT!

EASIER
SAID THAN
DONE,
PRINCESS!

TALK
ABOUT--
TIGHT--
S-SQUEEZES--

**SUGAR
TWAN!**

MEEEE.OOW!



--THE DYNAMAC REGISTERS SONIC'S **BODY HEAT** AS HE DOES SO!

SNIVELY!

* HEY, KIDS! SHAKE YOUR HANDS REAL FAST AND SEE HOW MANY IMAGES YOU MAKE! -EDITOR.

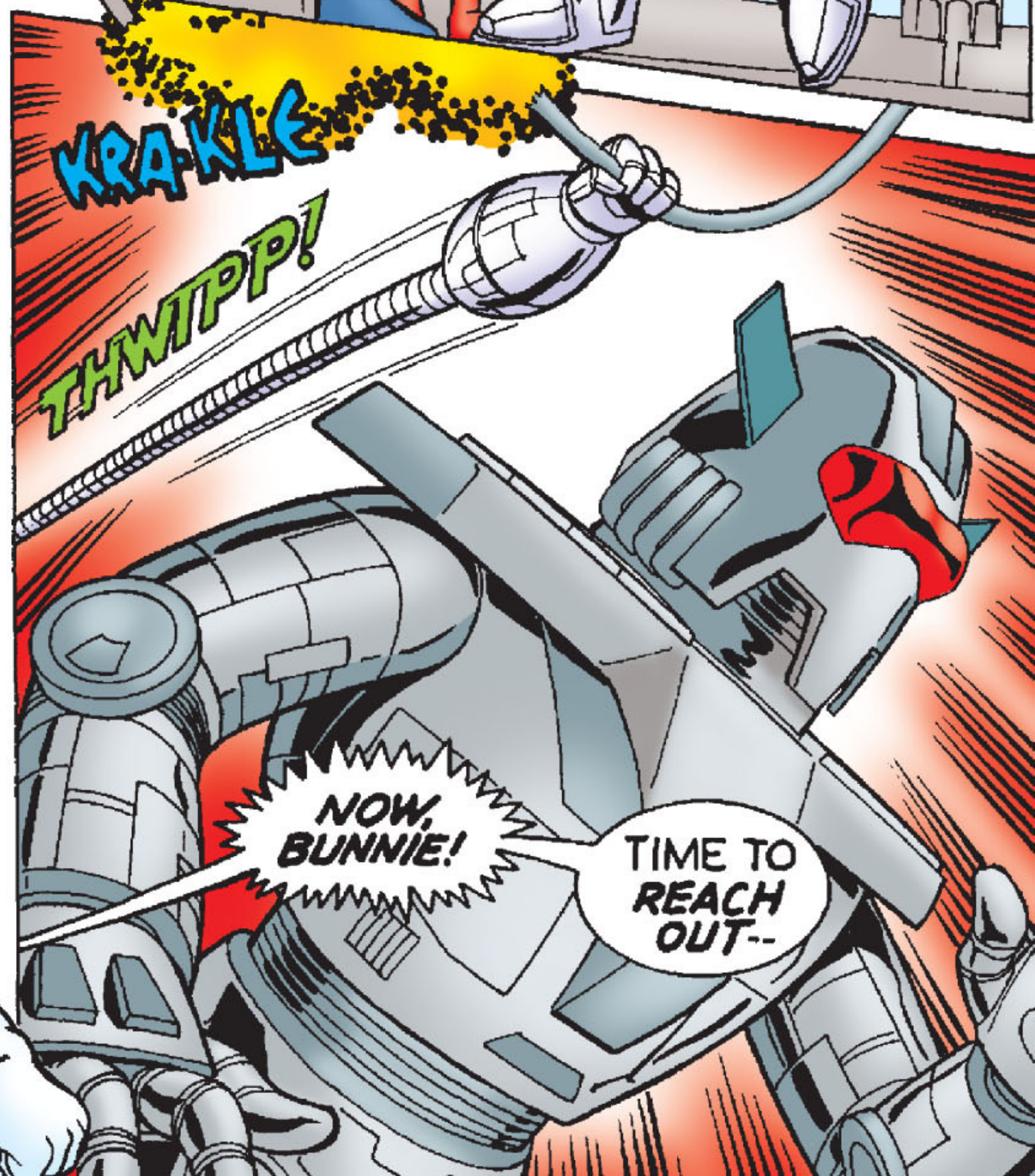
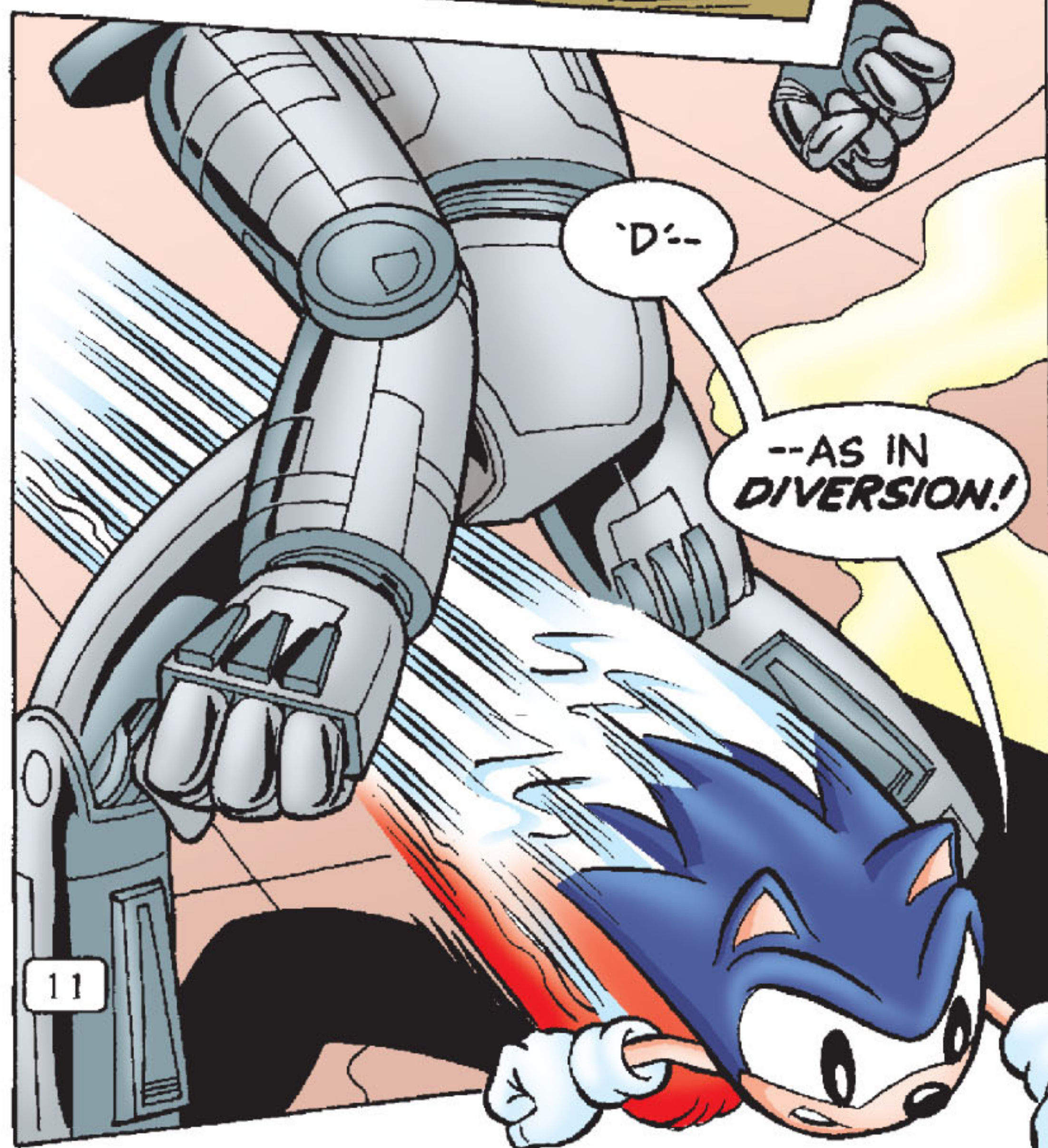
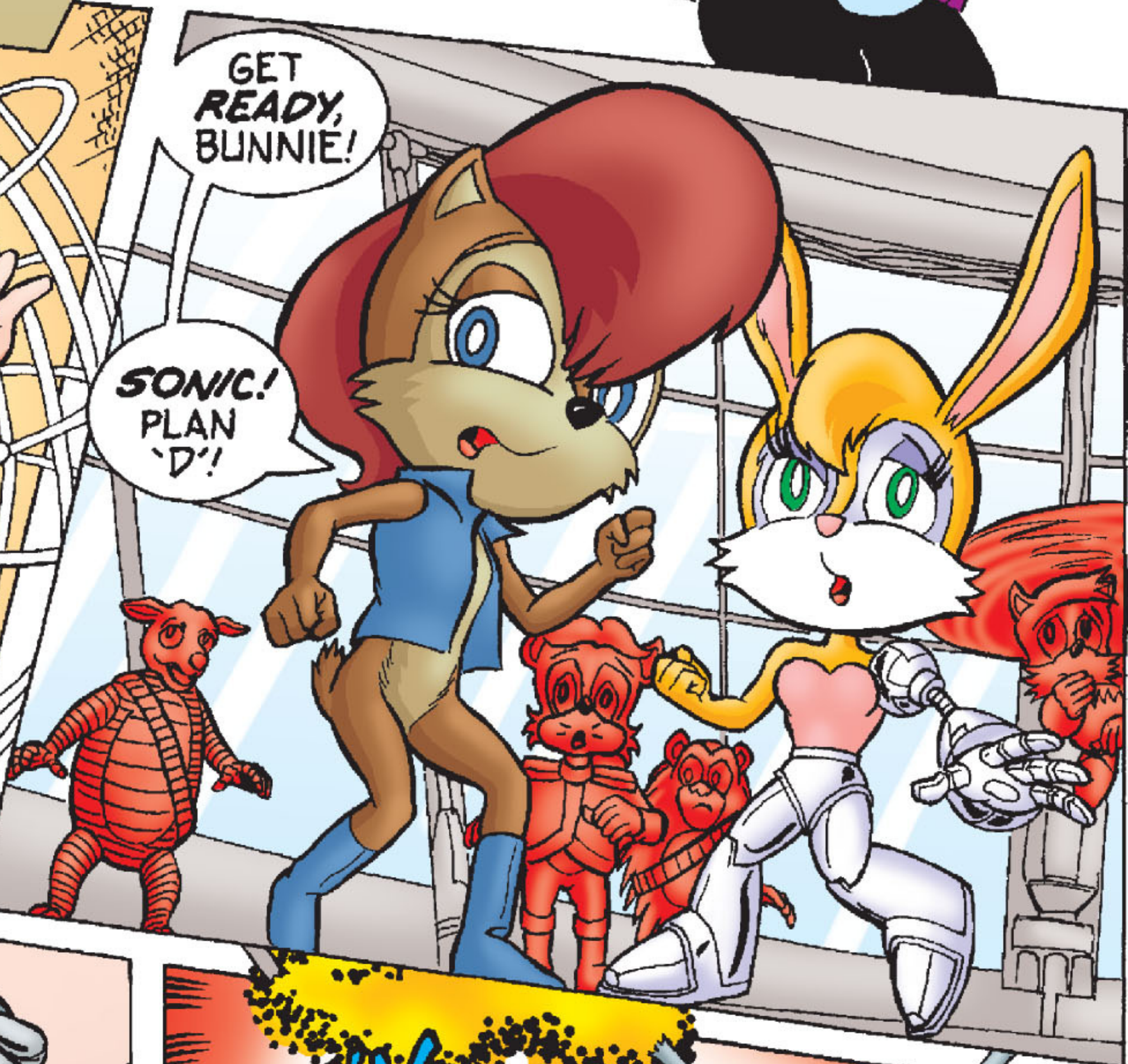
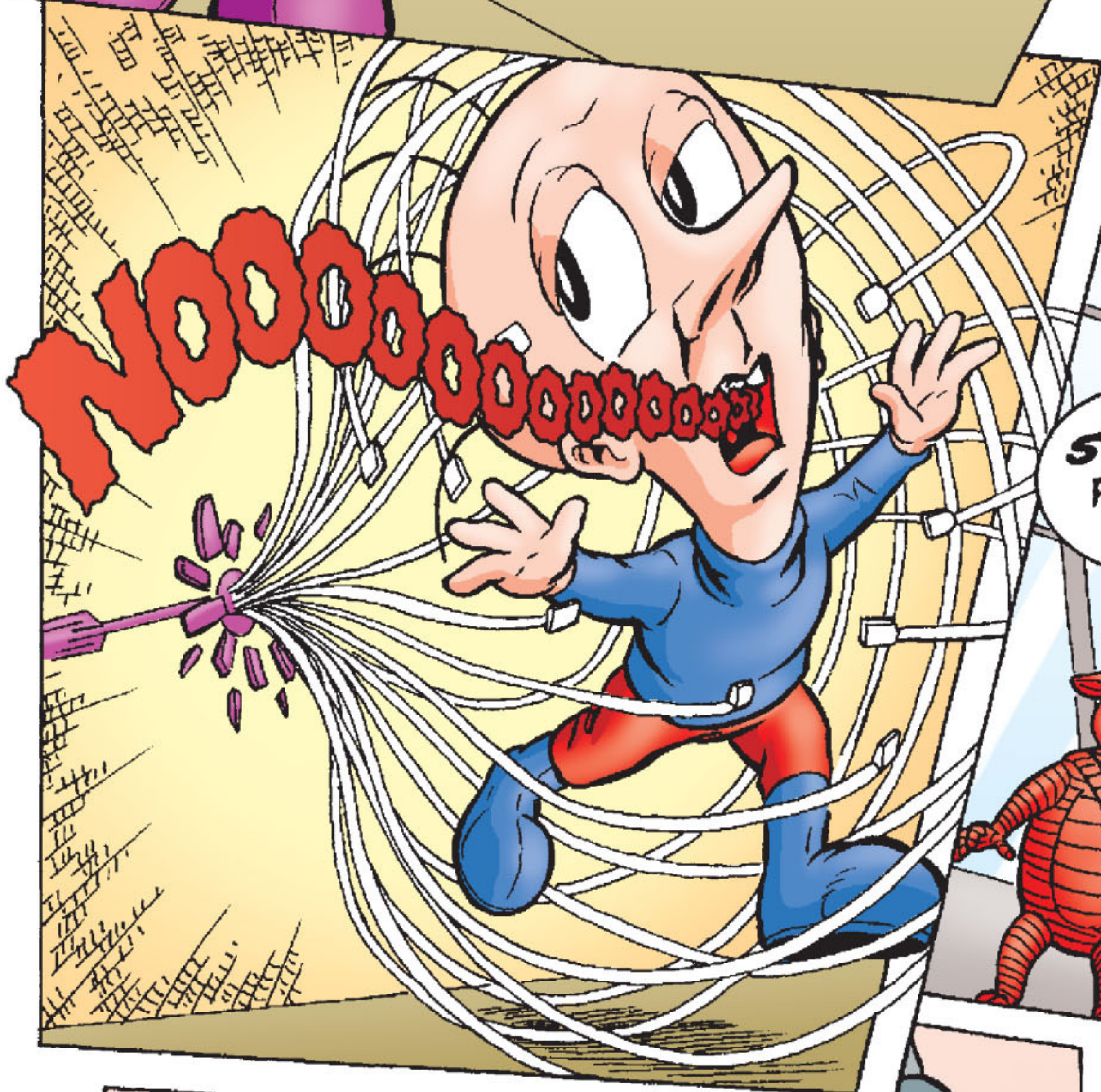
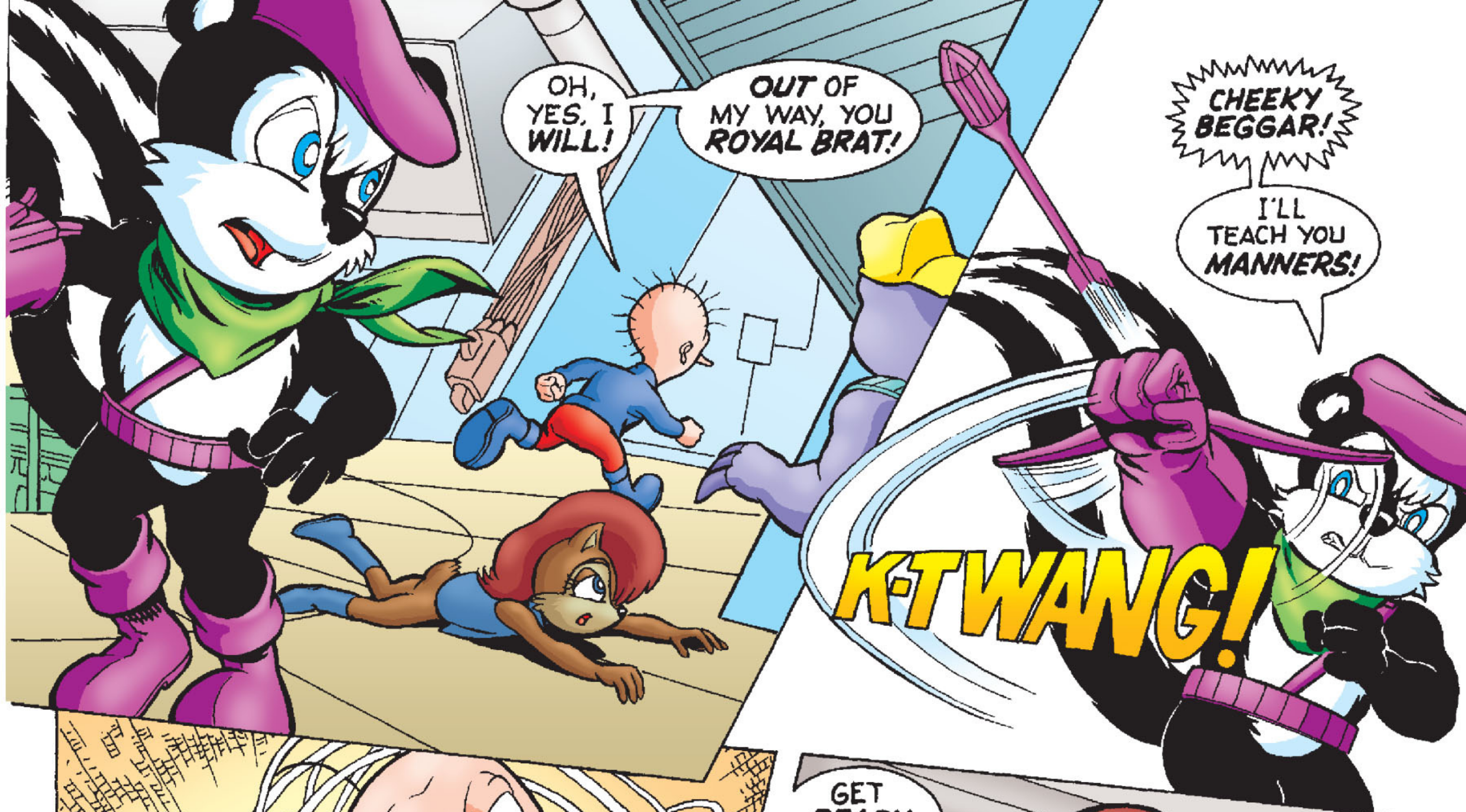
BY MOVING SO FAST, SONIC NOT ONLY--EH--ER--NOT ONLY IS ABLE TO PRODUCE **MULTIPLE IMAGES**, BUT-- *

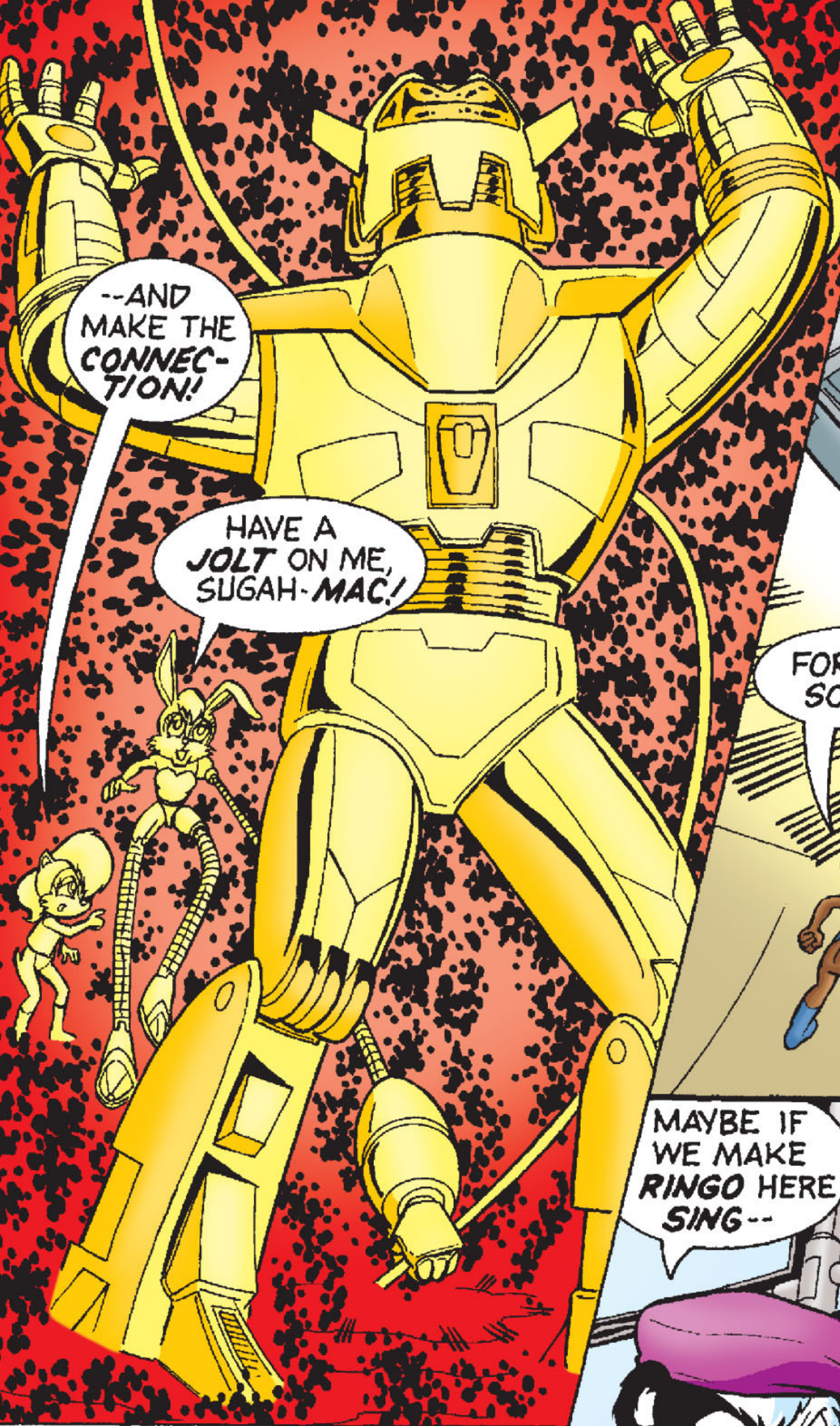
YOU ARE A **MORON!**

ALL THIS **COMMOTION** AND YOU'RE FASCINATED WITH WHAT'S **BEHIND A CURTAIN!**

NO MATTER! TIME TO **BOOK IT!**

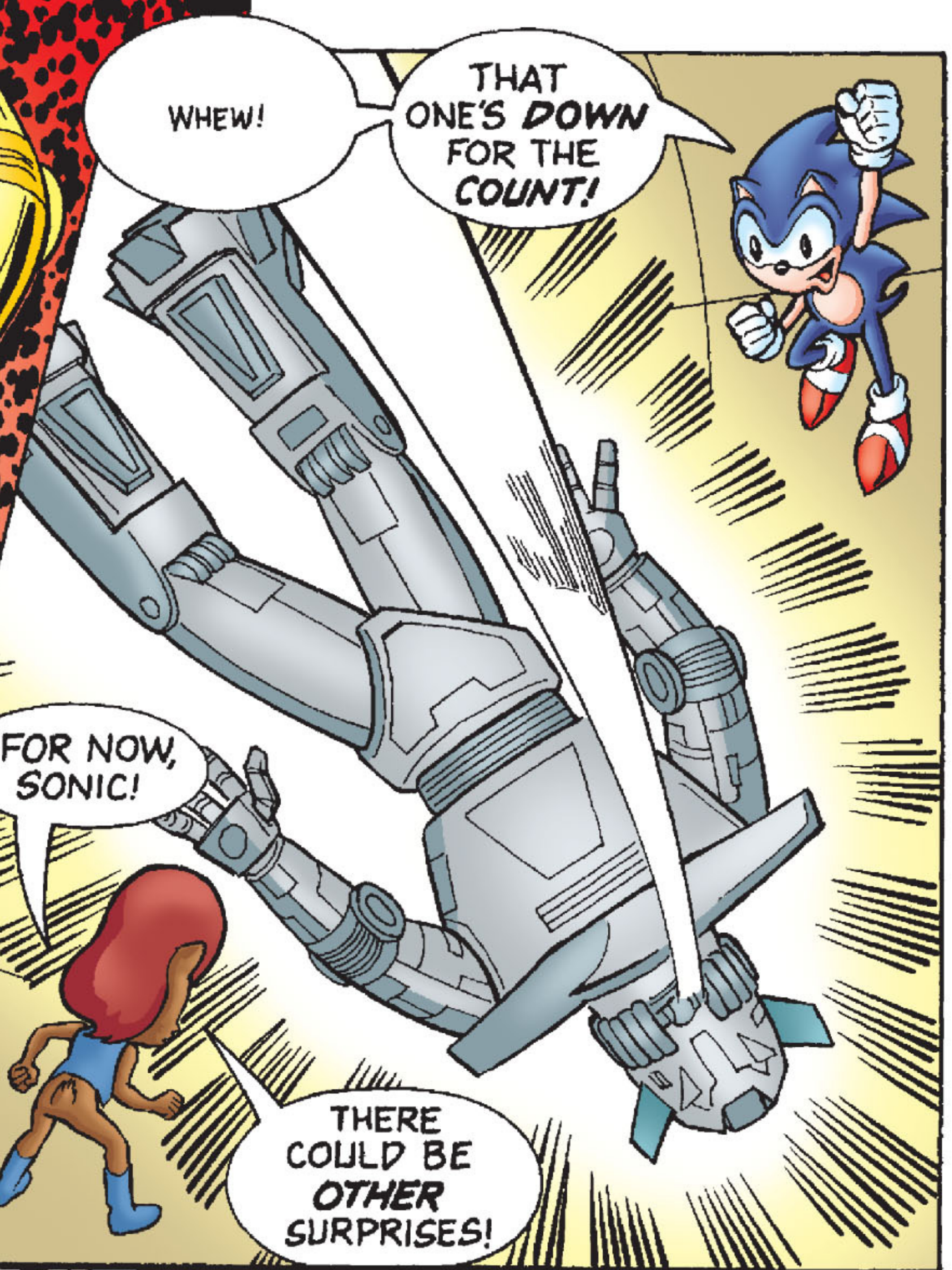
OH, NO, YOU **DON'T!**





--AND MAKE THE CONNECTION!

HAVE A JOLT ON ME, SUGAH-MAC!



WHEW!

THAT ONE'S DOWN FOR THE COUNT!

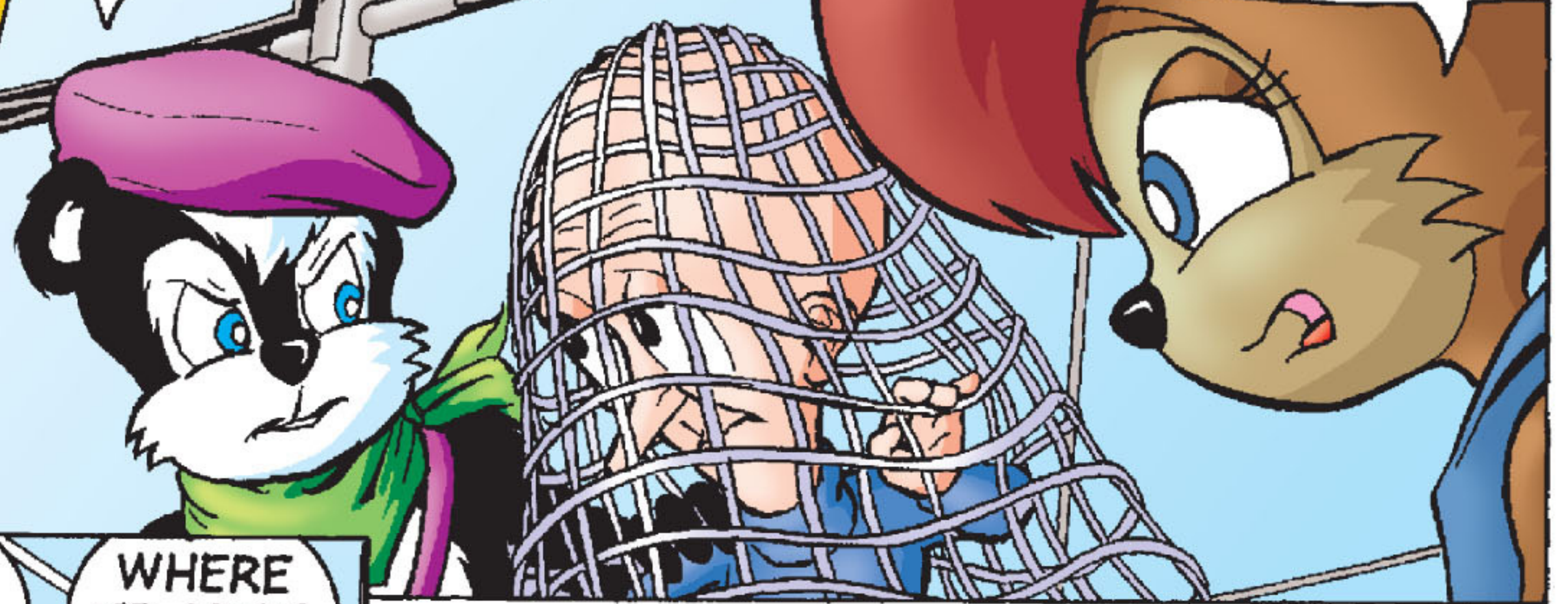
FOR NOW, SONIC!

THERE COULD BE OTHER SURPRISES!

MAYBE IF WE MAKE RINGO HERE SING--

-- WE COULD MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR US!

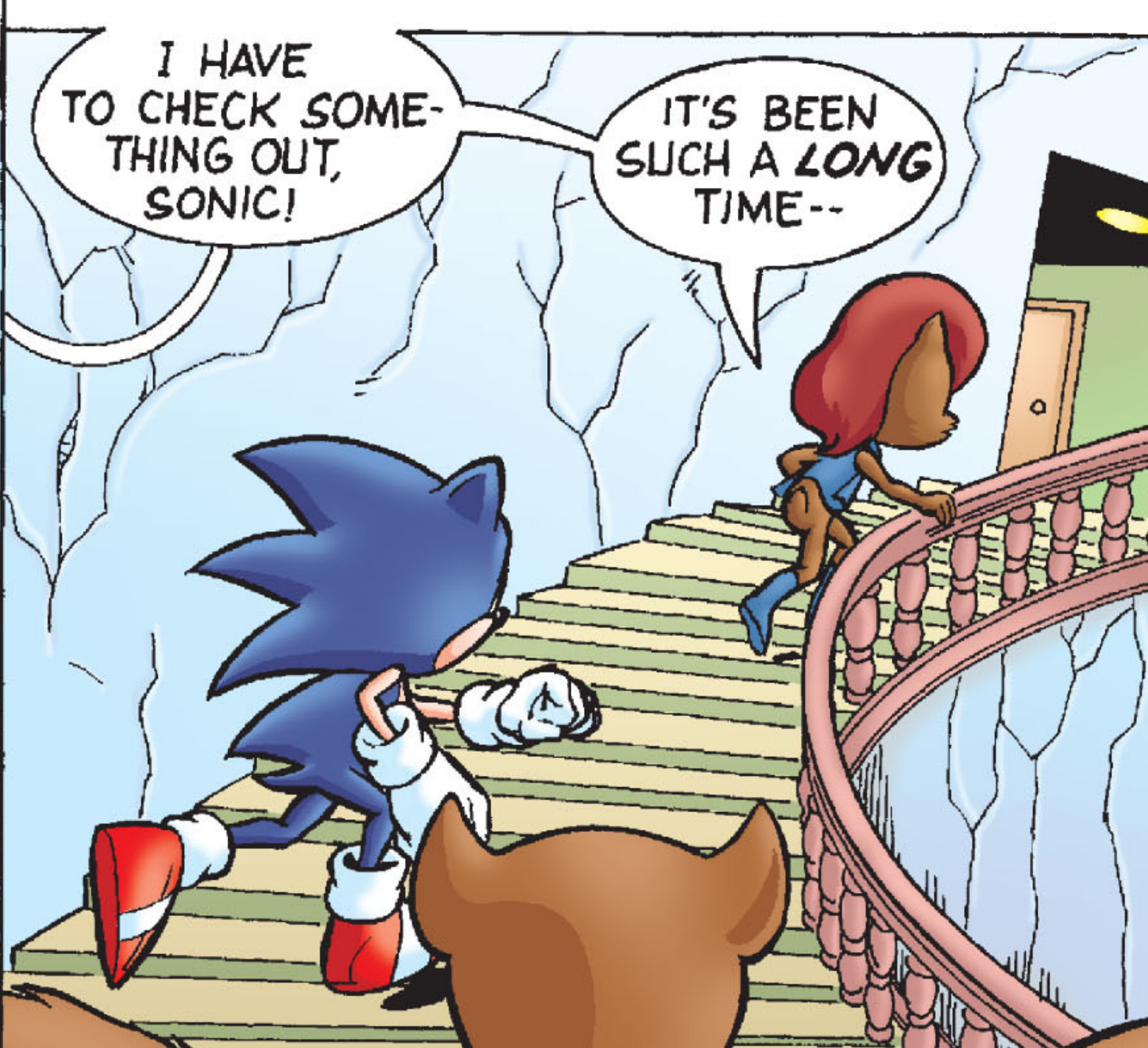
I DOUBT VERY MUCH SNIVELY WOULD CO-OPERATE, GEOFFREY!



YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, SISTER!

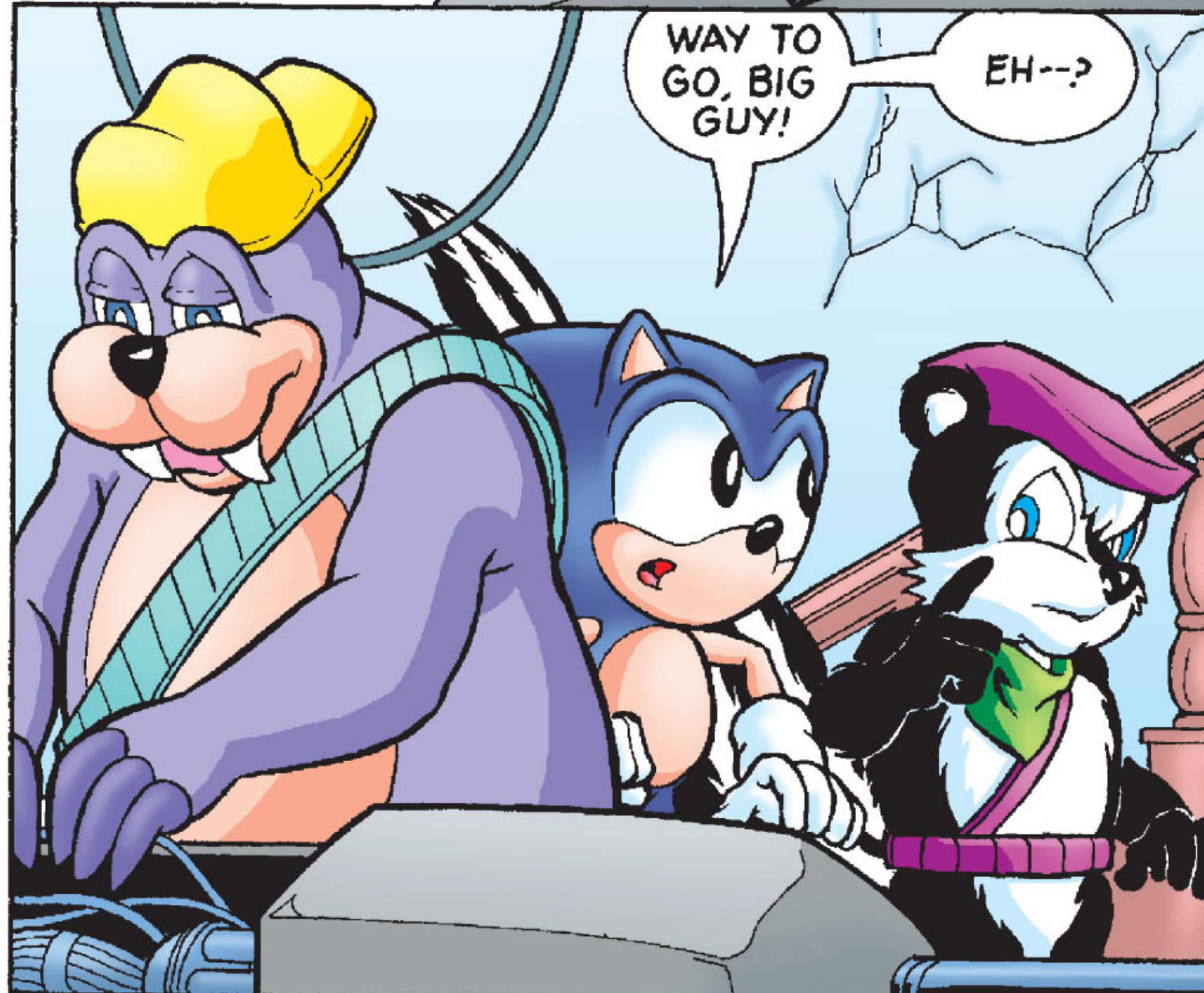
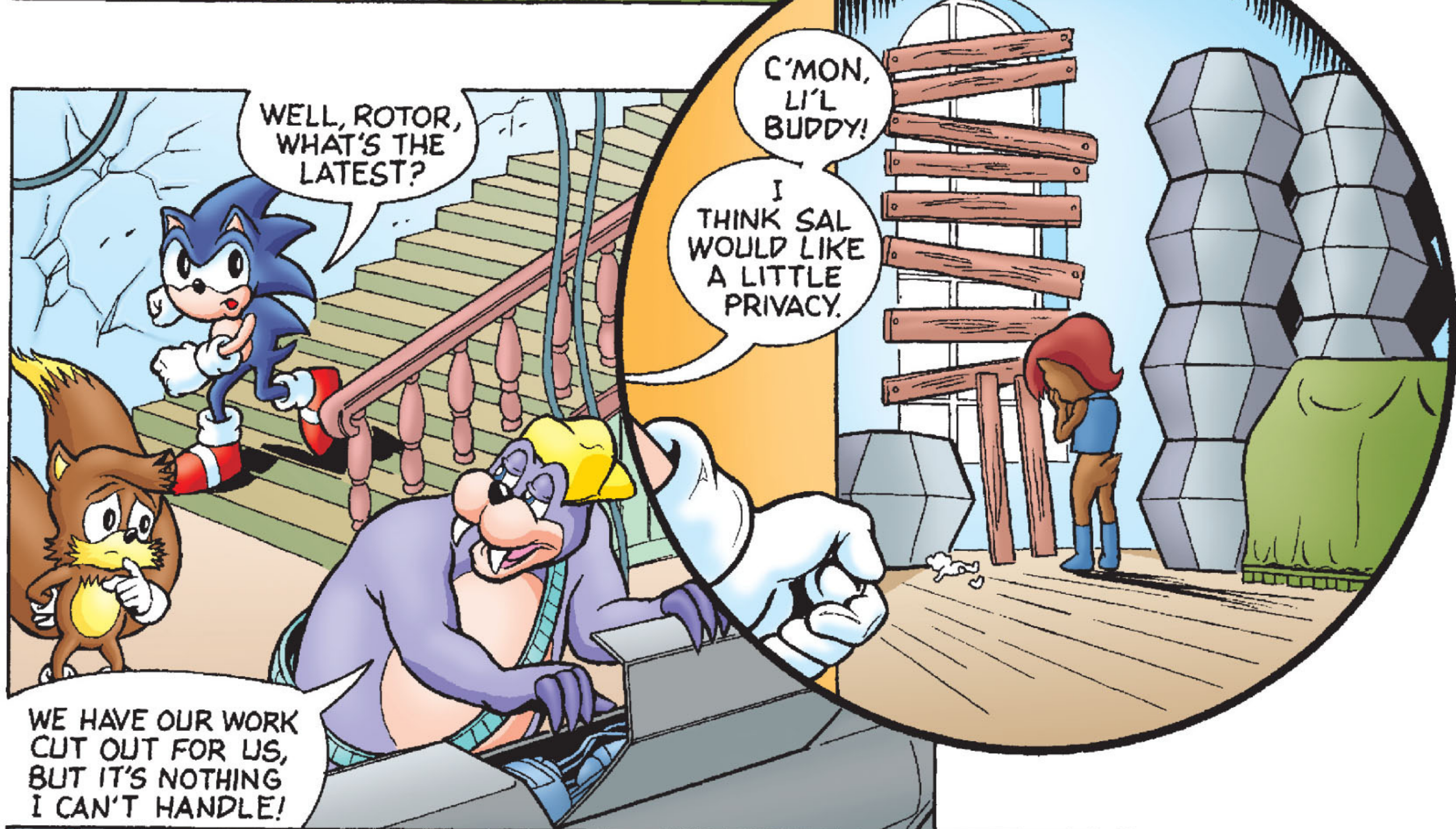
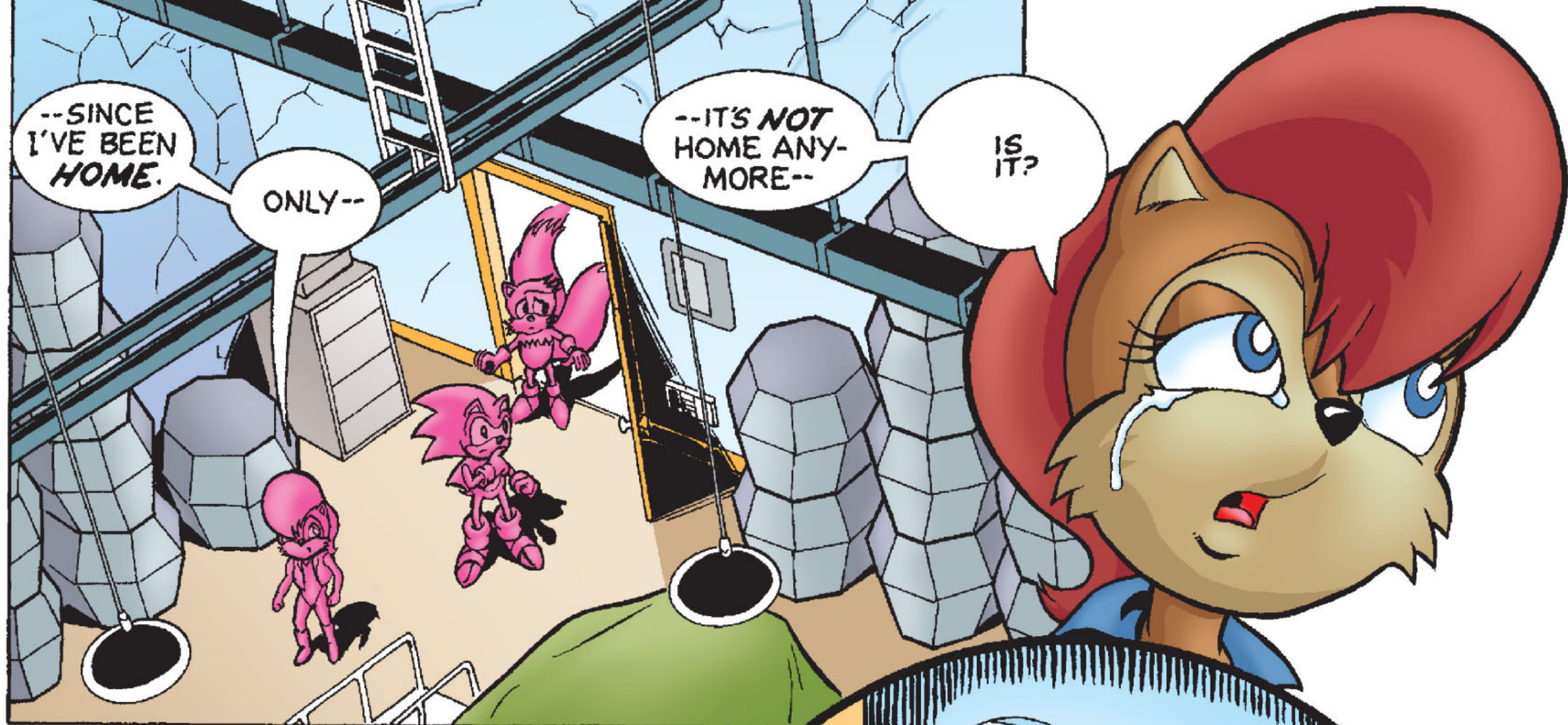
THERE'S ALWAYS THE HARD WAY, MATE!

WHERE TO NOW, SAL?

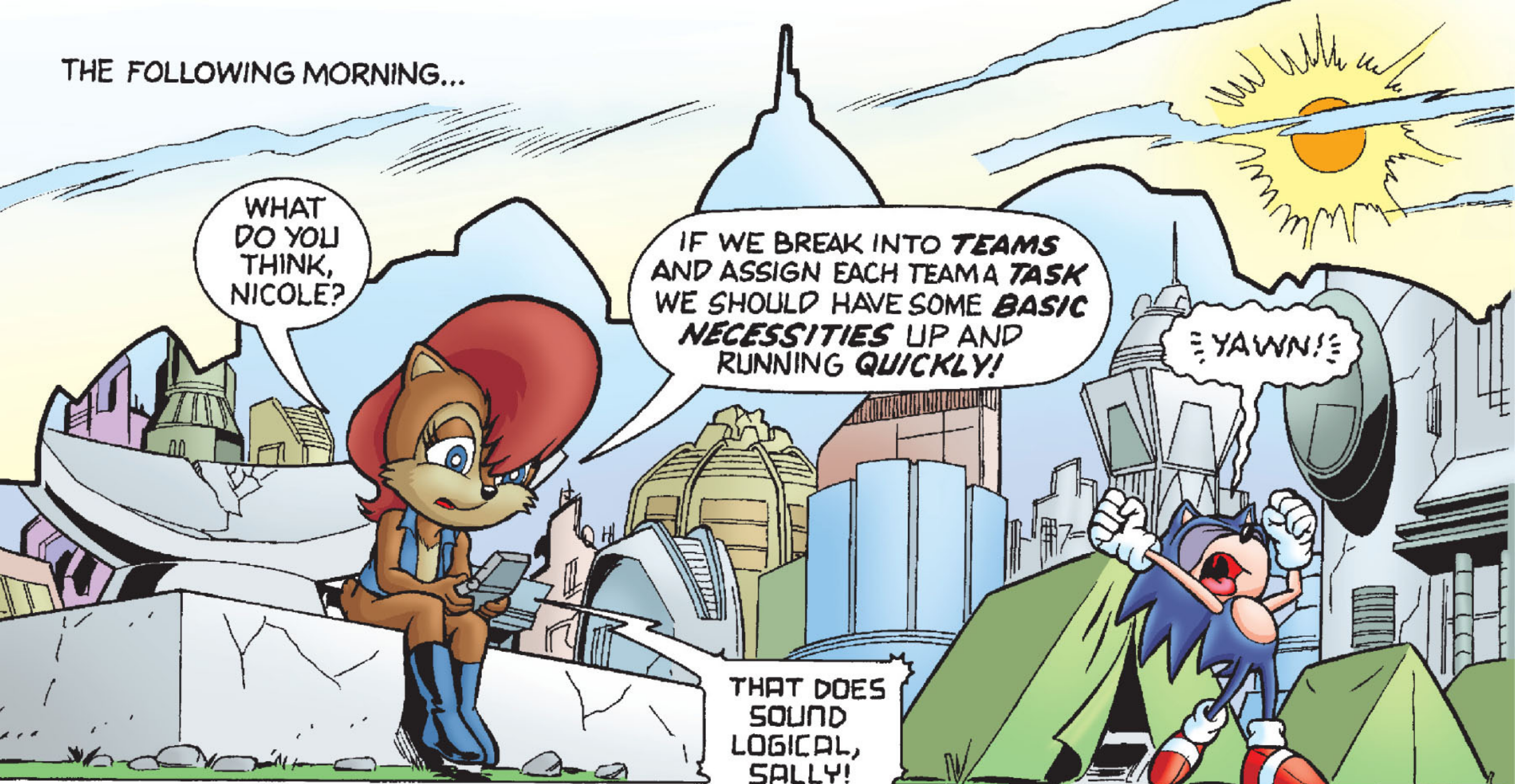


I HAVE TO CHECK SOMETHING OUT, SONIC!

IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME--



THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

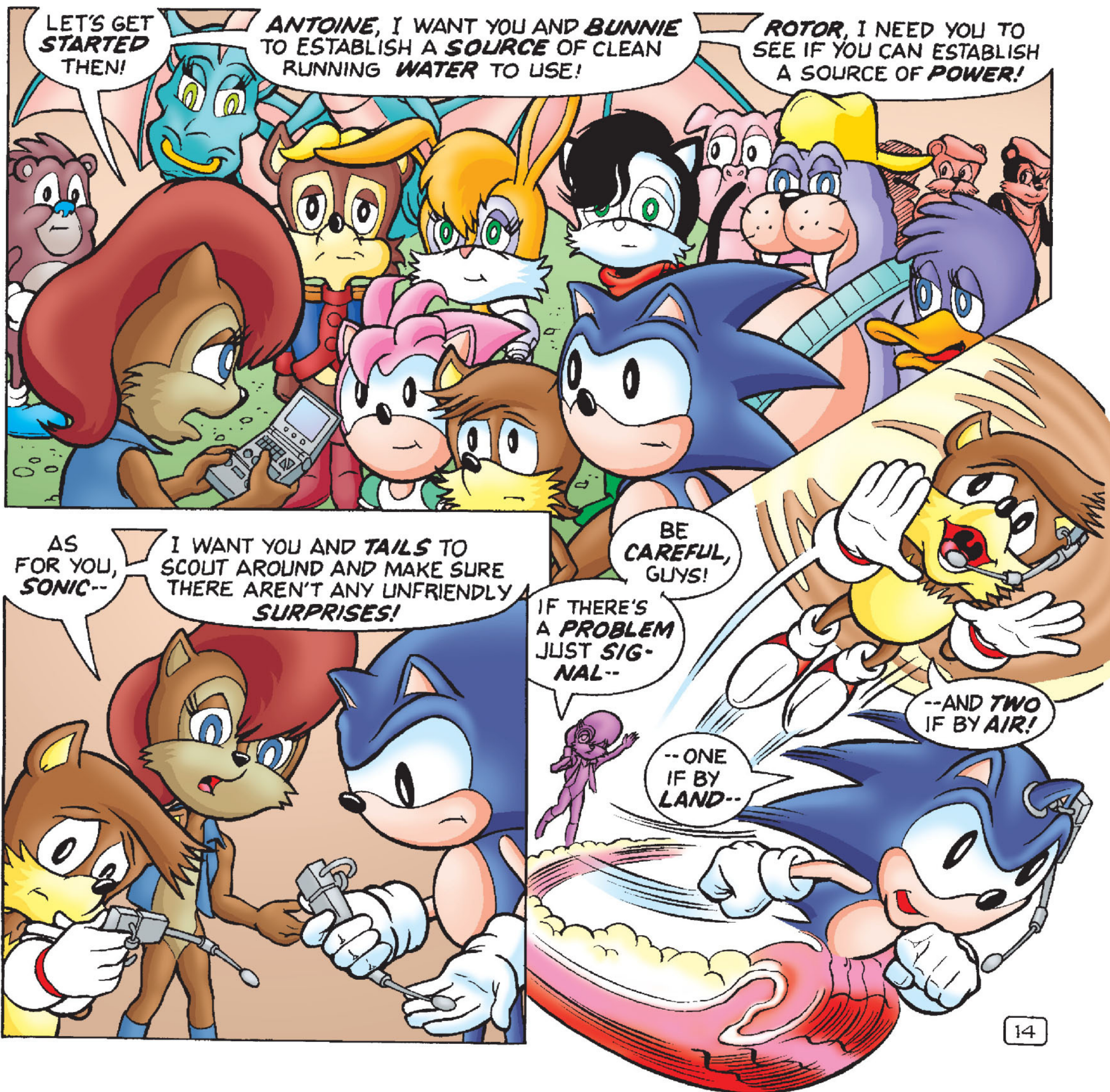


WHAT DO YOU THINK, NICOLE?

IF WE BREAK INTO **TEAMS** AND ASSIGN EACH TEAM A **TASK** WE SHOULD HAVE SOME **BASIC NECESSITIES** UP AND RUNNING **QUICKLY!**

YAWN!

THAT DOES SOUND LOGICAL, SALLY!



LET'S GET **STARTED** THEN!

ANTOINE, I WANT YOU AND **BUNNIE** TO ESTABLISH A **SOURCE** OF CLEAN RUNNING **WATER** TO USE!

ROTOR, I NEED YOU TO SEE IF YOU CAN ESTABLISH A **SOURCE** OF **POWER!**

AS FOR YOU, **SONIC**--

I WANT YOU AND **TAILS** TO SCOUT AROUND AND MAKE SURE THERE AREN'T ANY UNFRIENDLY **SURPRISES!**

BE **CAREFUL**, GUYS!

IF THERE'S A **PROBLEM** JUST **SIG-NAL**--

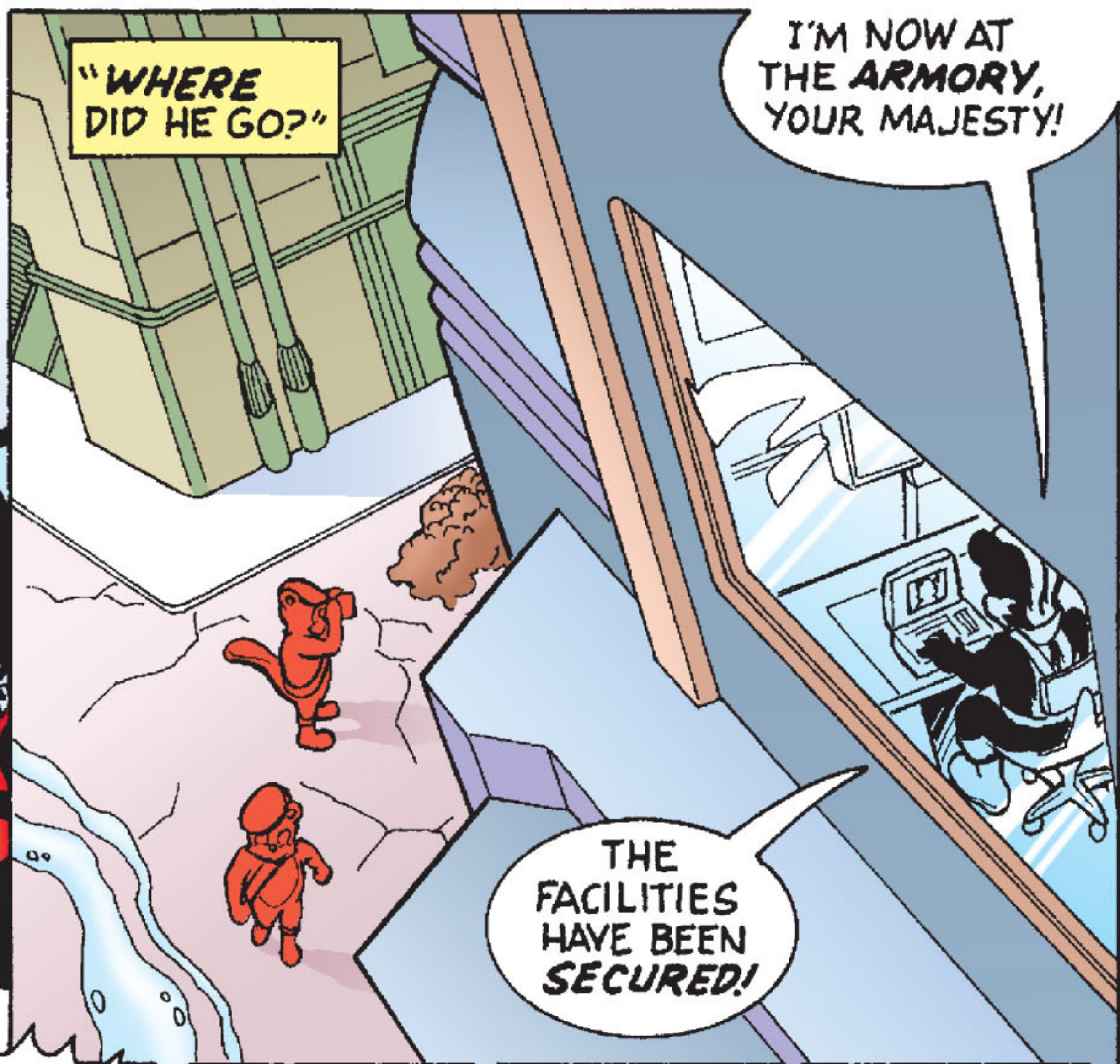
--ONE IF BY **LAND**--

--AND **TWO** IF BY **AIR!**



NOW, I WANT YOU, GEOFFREY--

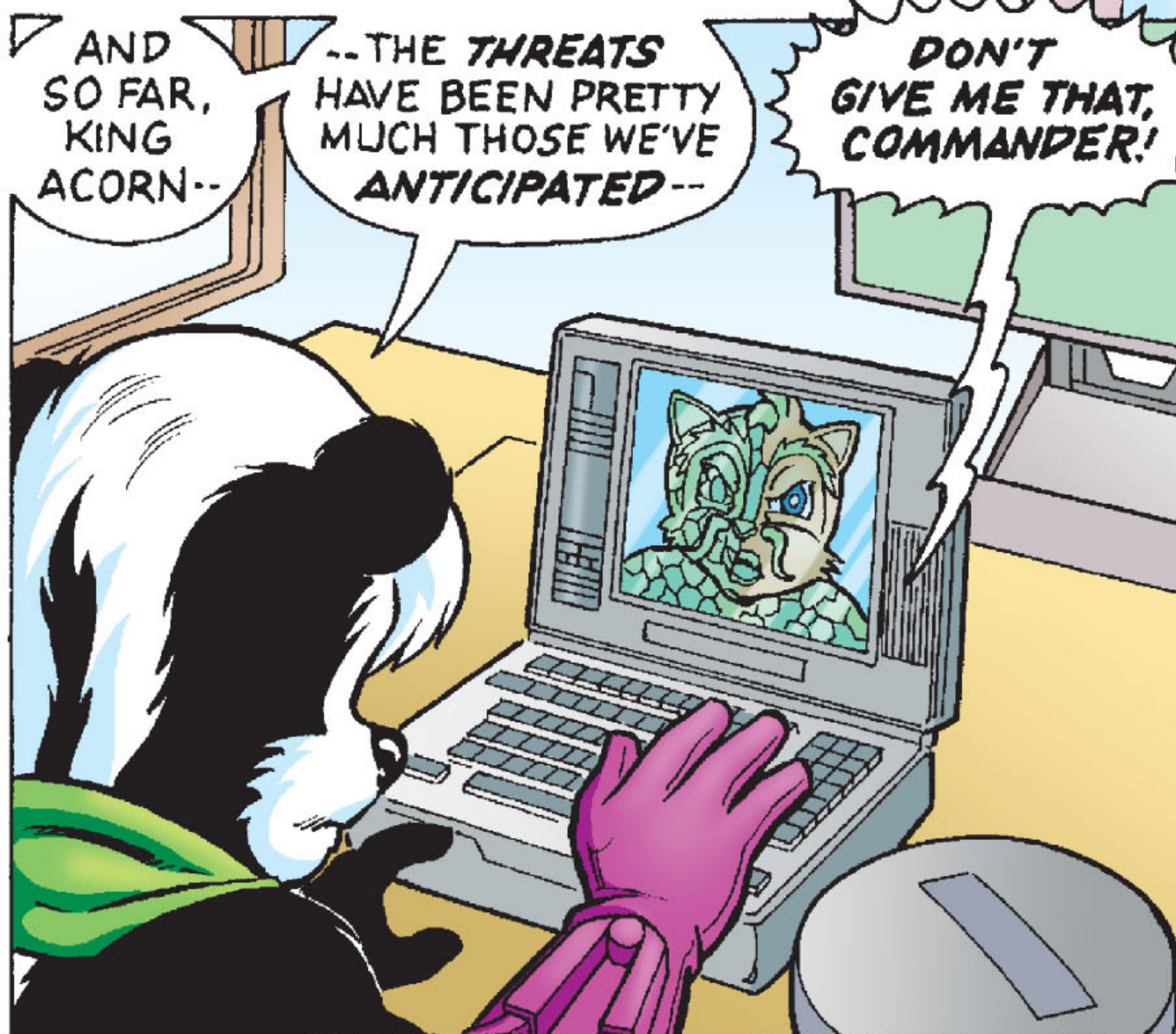
GEOFFREY?



"WHERE DID HE GO?"

I'M NOW AT THE ARMORY, YOUR MAJESTY!

THE FACILITIES HAVE BEEN SECURED!



AND SO FAR, KING ACORN--

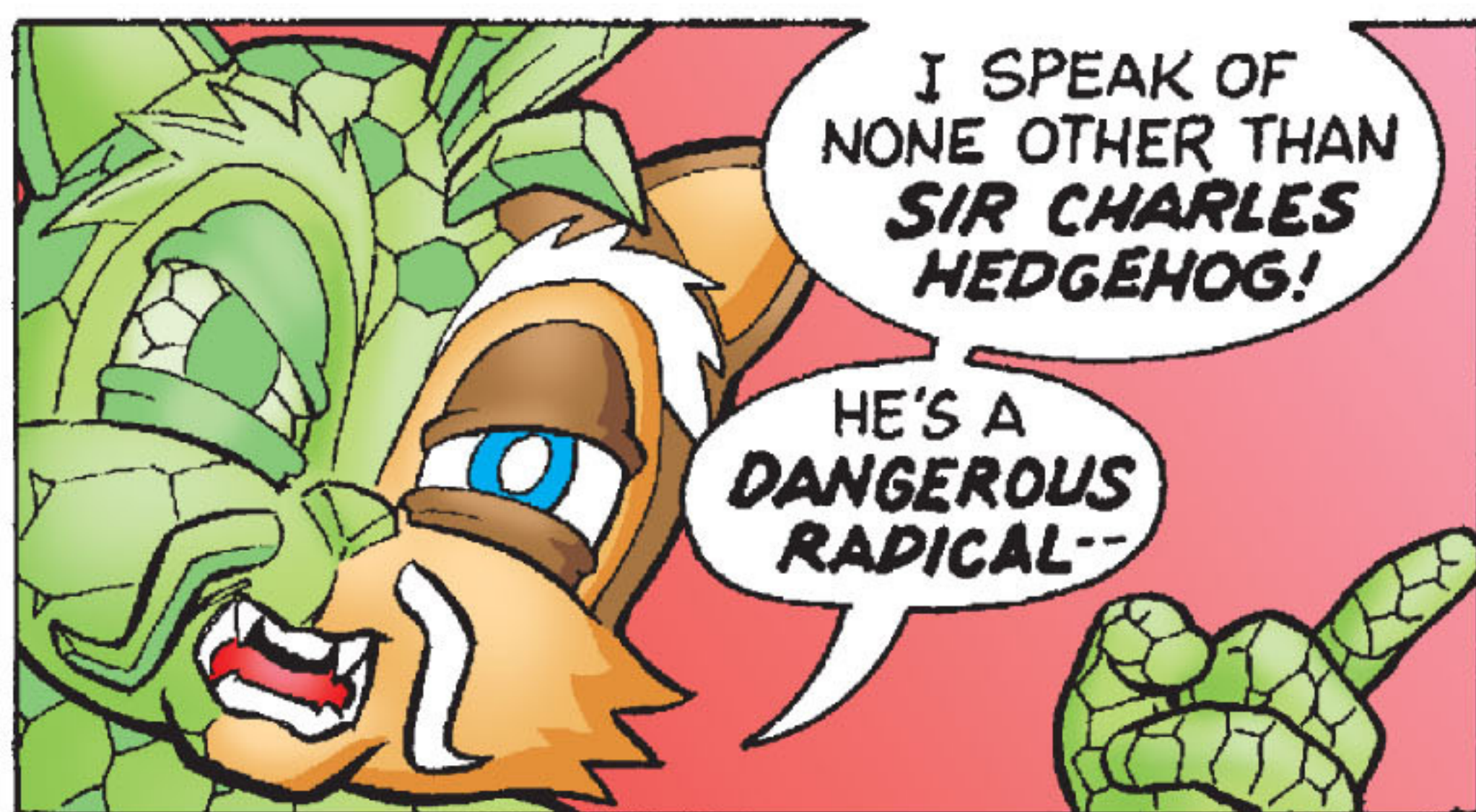
--THE *THREATS* HAVE BEEN PRETTY MUCH THOSE WE'VE ANTICIPATED--

DON'T GIVE ME THAT, COMMANDER!

WE MUST GUARD AGAINST THE ENEMY *WITHIN* AS WELL AS WITHOUT!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, YOUR HIGHNESS!

WHO IS THIS ENEMY YOU REFER TO?

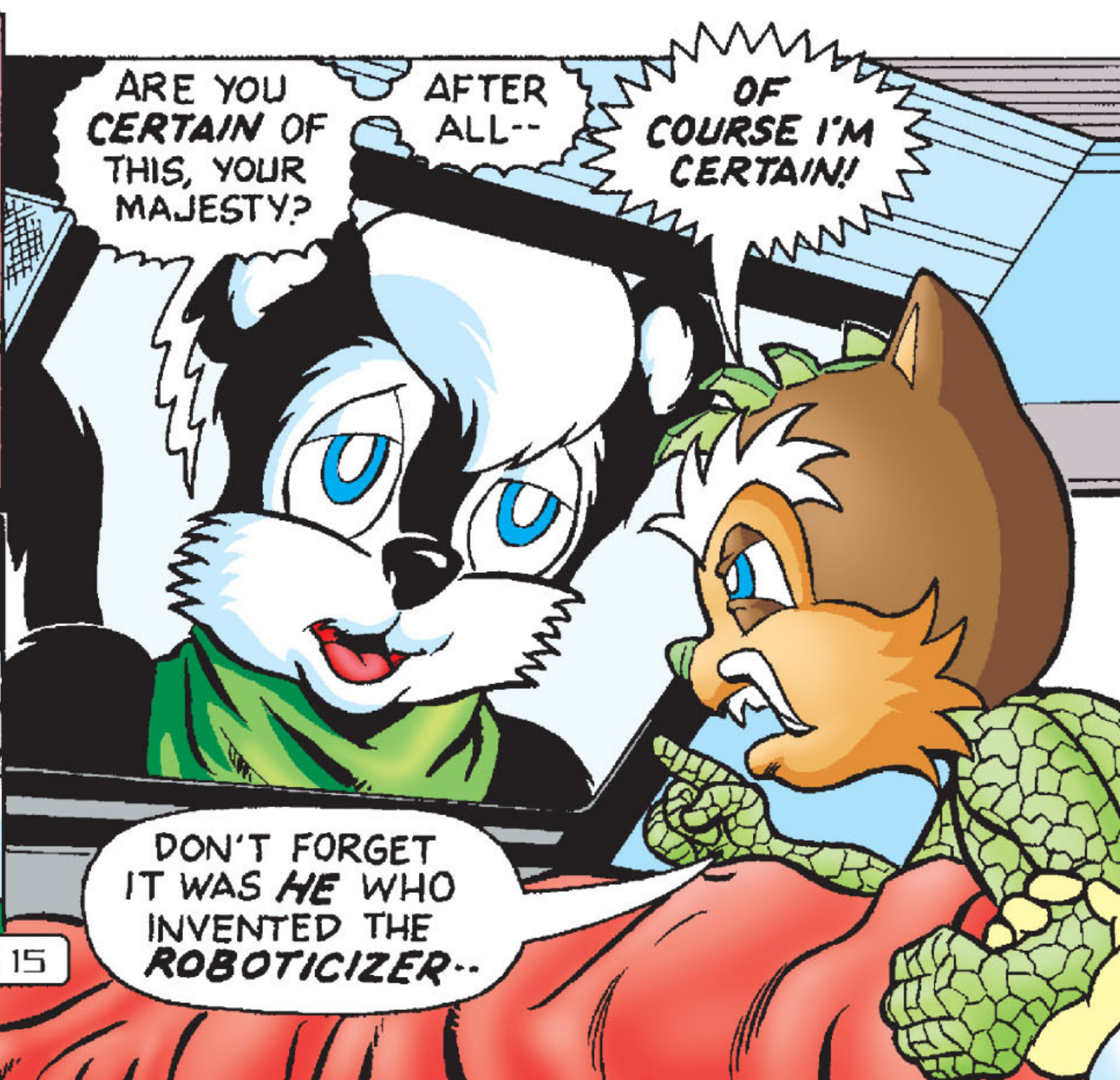


I SPEAK OF NONE OTHER THAN *SIR CHARLES HEDGEHOG!*

HE'S A DANGEROUS RADICAL--



--AND COULD POSE A MAJOR *THREAT* TO THE REALM!



ARE YOU CERTAIN OF THIS, YOUR MAJESTY?

AFTER ALL--

OF COURSE I'M CERTAIN!

DON'T FORGET IT WAS *HE* WHO INVENTED THE *ROBOTICIZER*--

--AS WELL AS CREATING THE **SPY NETWORK** THAT BEGAT **TRAITORS** TO THE REALM!

I HAVE ACCESS TO **INFORMATION** EVEN YOU ARE **UNAWARE** OF, COMMANDER, AND IF I--

THAT'S *ENOUGH* EXCITEMENT FOR NOW, SIRE!

"I'M SURE THE KINGDOM WILL **SURVIVE** WHILE YOU *REST*."

I'M OUT ON **SECURITY DETAIL**, FLEMING!

NOBODY GOES IN THERE!

EVEN THE **PRINCESS**, SIR?

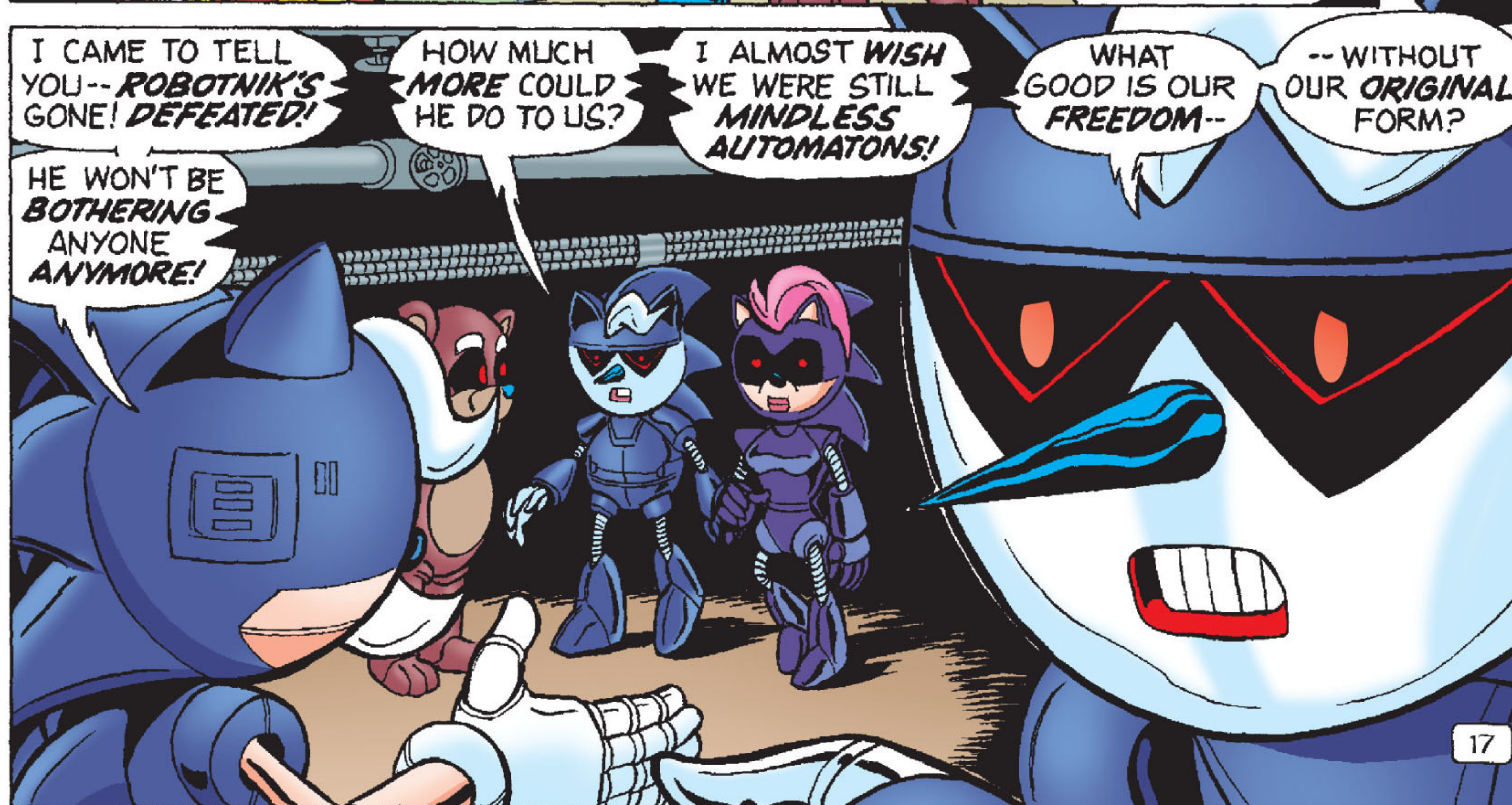
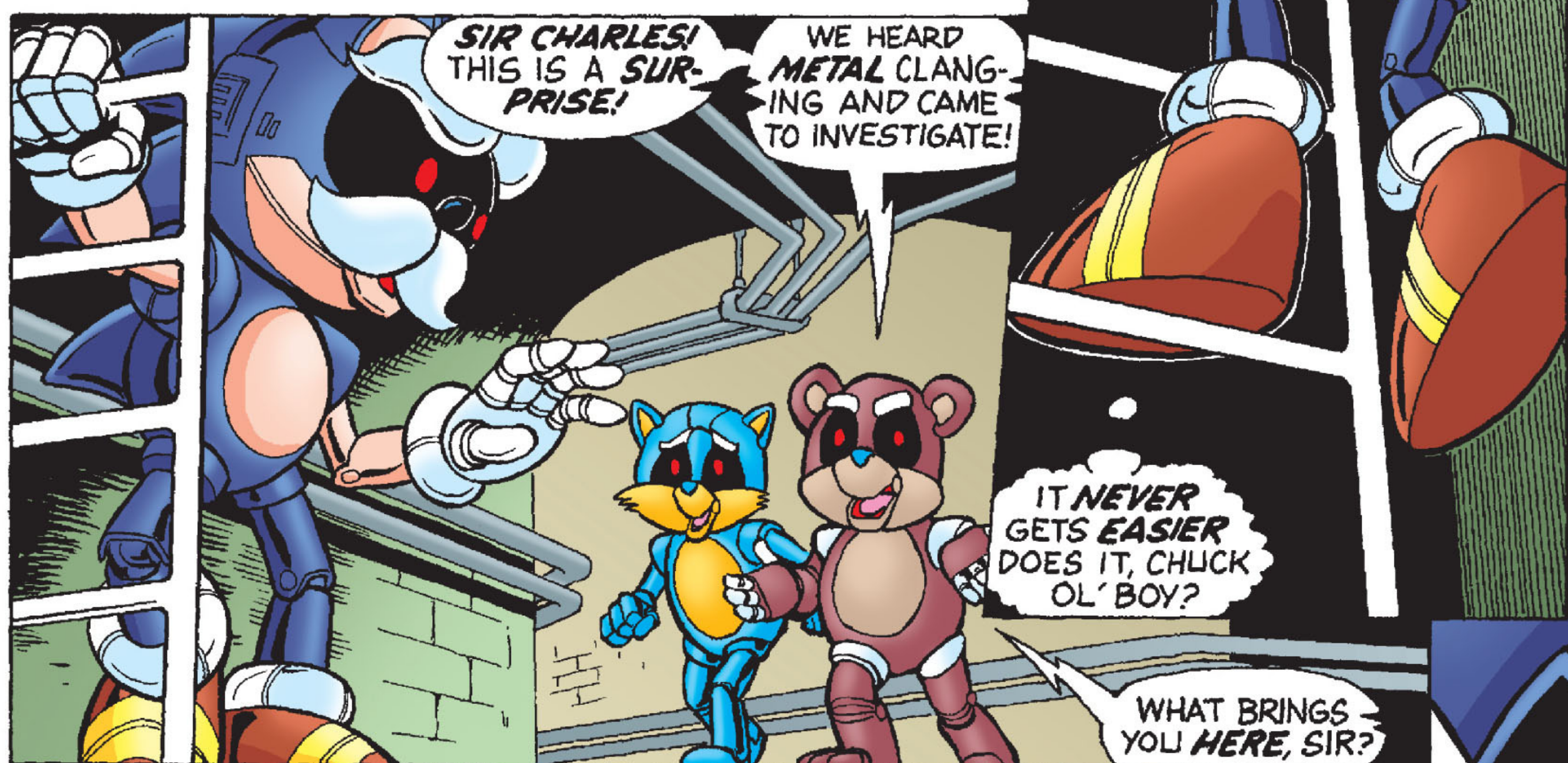
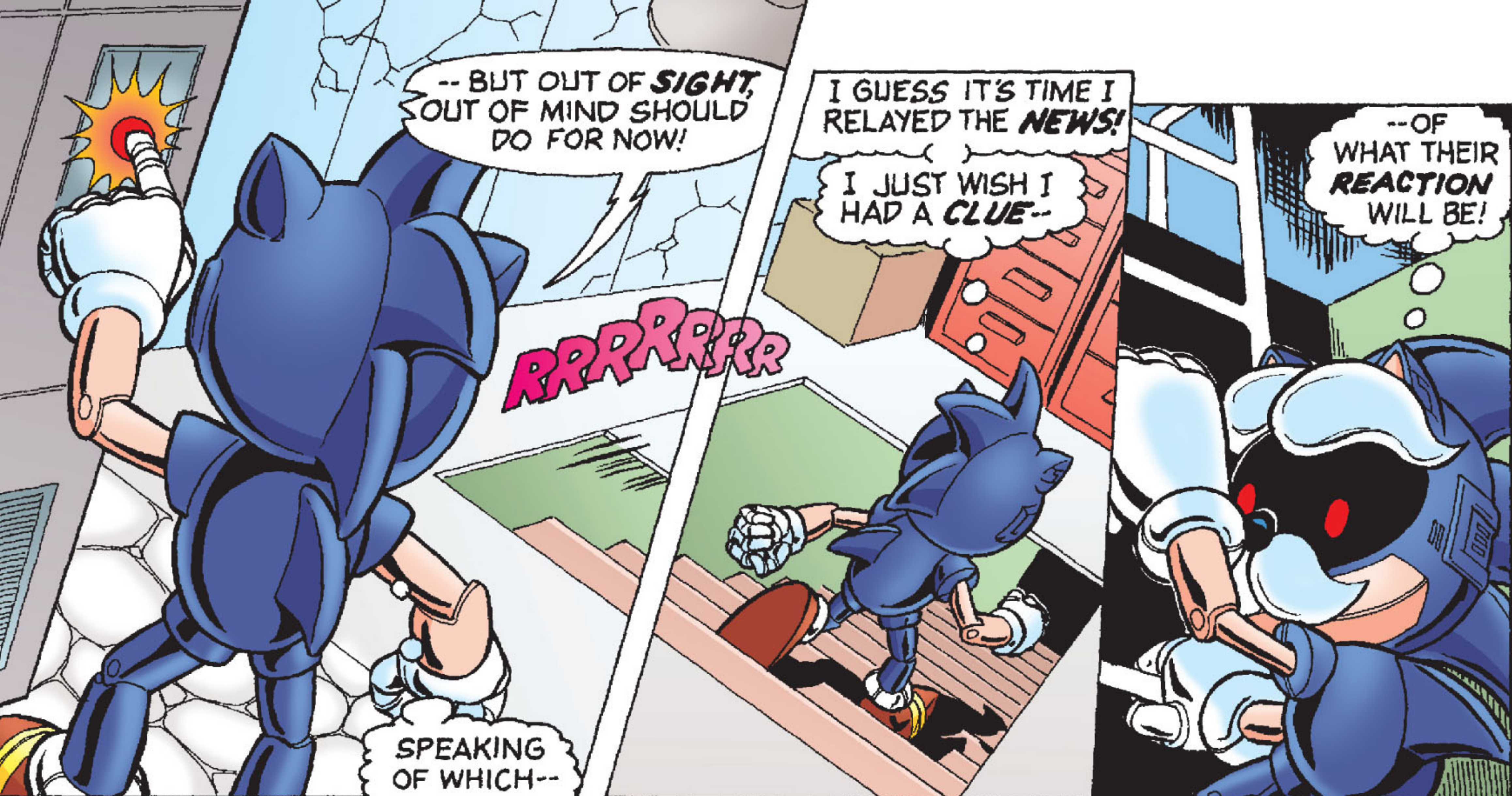
KLIK! KLAK!

"**ESPECIALLY** THE **PRINCESS!**"

THIS SHOULD JUST ABOUT DO IT!

WITH **ROBOTNIK** GONE FOR GOOD, I DON'T SEE ANY **NEED** FOR ALL THIS **SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT!**

OF COURSE, ONE *NEVER* KNOWS WHEN THINGS MIGHT **CHANGE--**



EH-- I'M AFRAID
IT'S NOT THAT
SIMPLE, JULES!

THE **ULTIMATE
ANNIHILATOR*** MAY
HAVE **RESTORED**
FREE WILL TO US
ALL, BUT--

BUT
**WHAT, SIR
CHARLES?**

WE'VE **ENDURED** SO,
MUCH, SIR CHARLES--

--THAT THE **HOPE** OF
BEING **RESTORED** IS
ALL THAT KEPT US
GOING!

ALL WE WANT--

--IS A **NORMAL**
LIFE WITH OUR
FAMILIES!

* RECENTLY CHRONICLED IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL #13 !-EDITOR

I'M AFRAID
--THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!

WHEN THE
ORIGINAL
ROBOTICIZER
WAS
DESTROYED--

--ANY CHANCE
OF OUR BEING
RESTORED **DIED**
WITH IT!

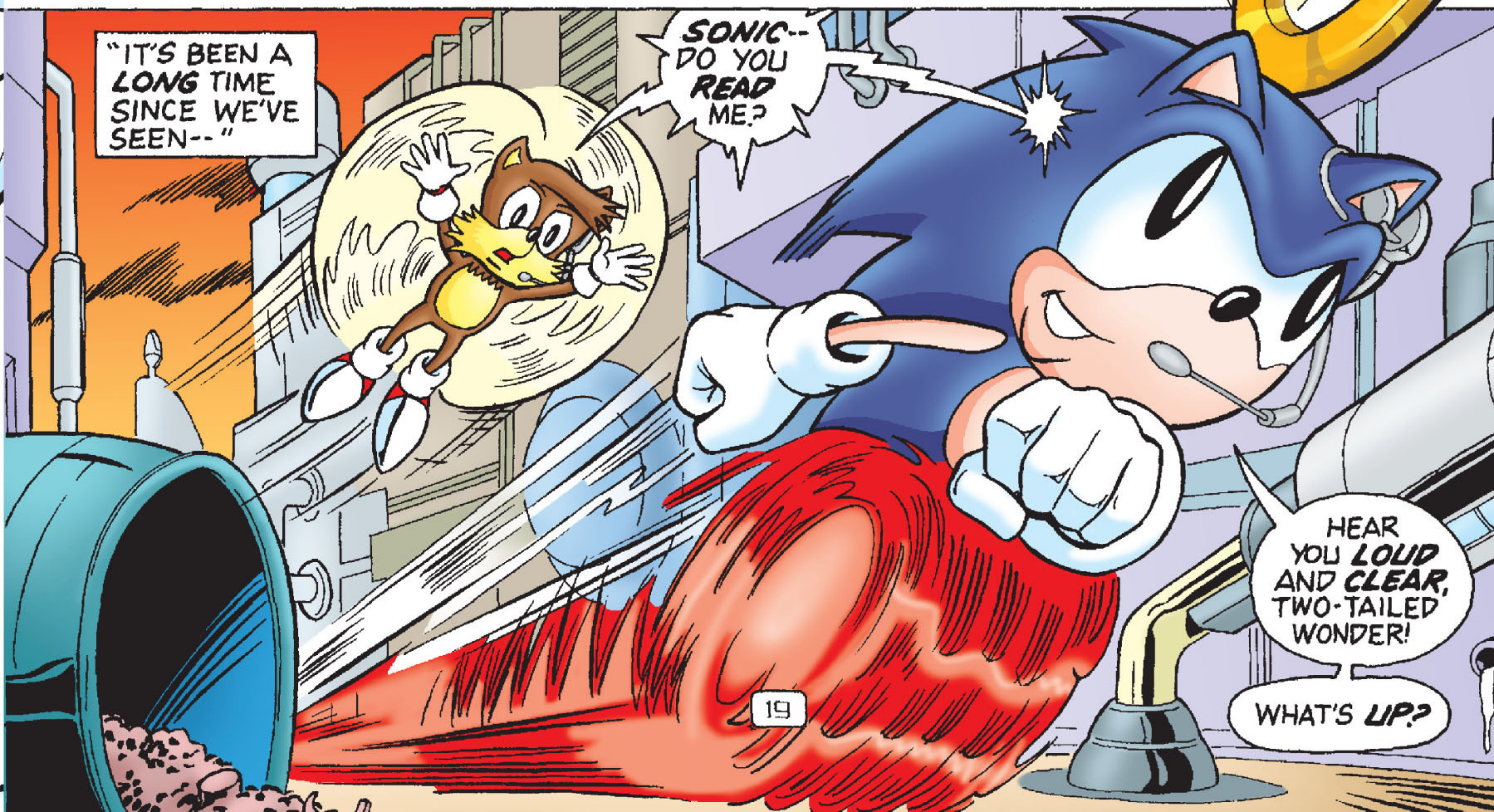
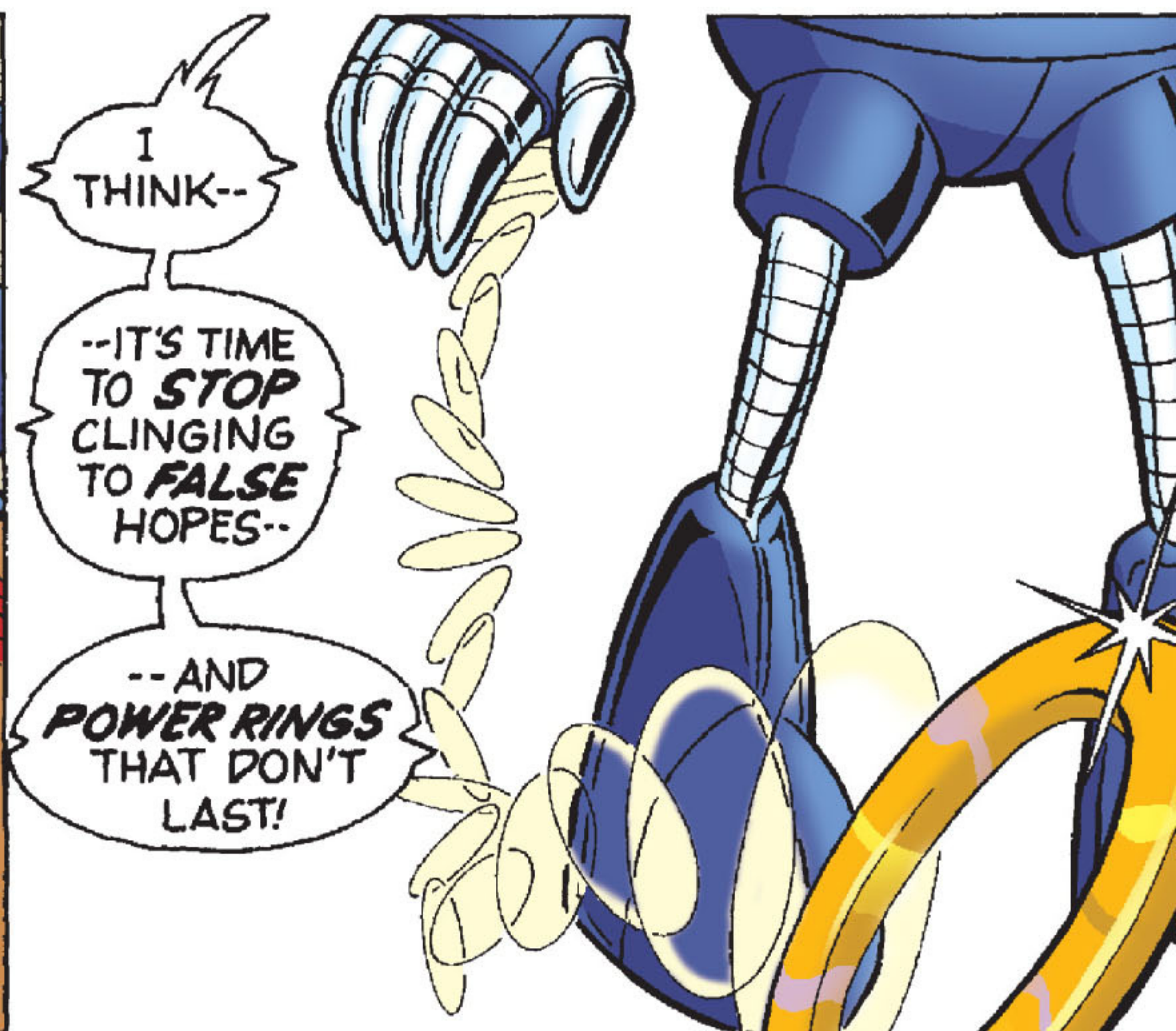
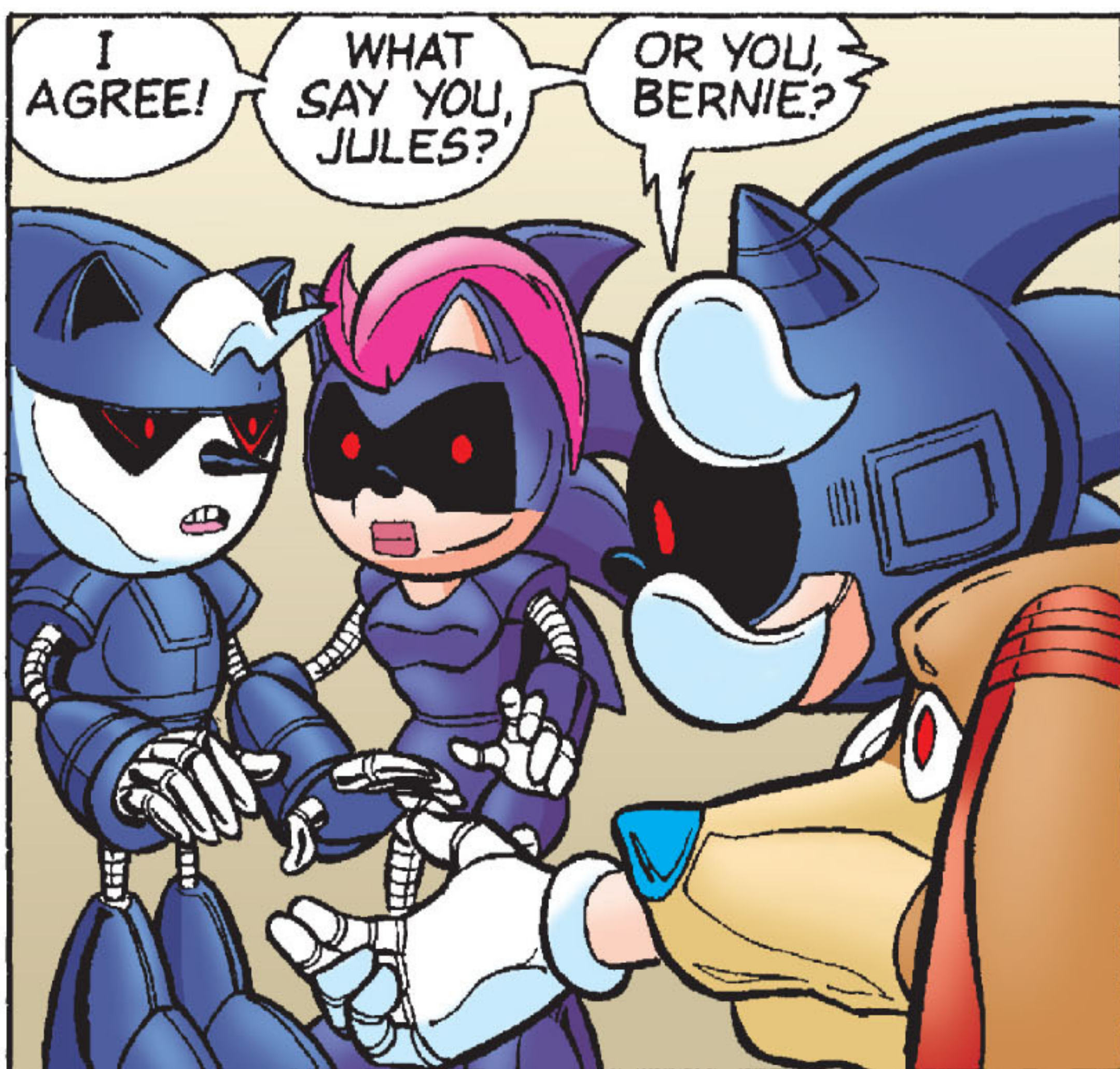
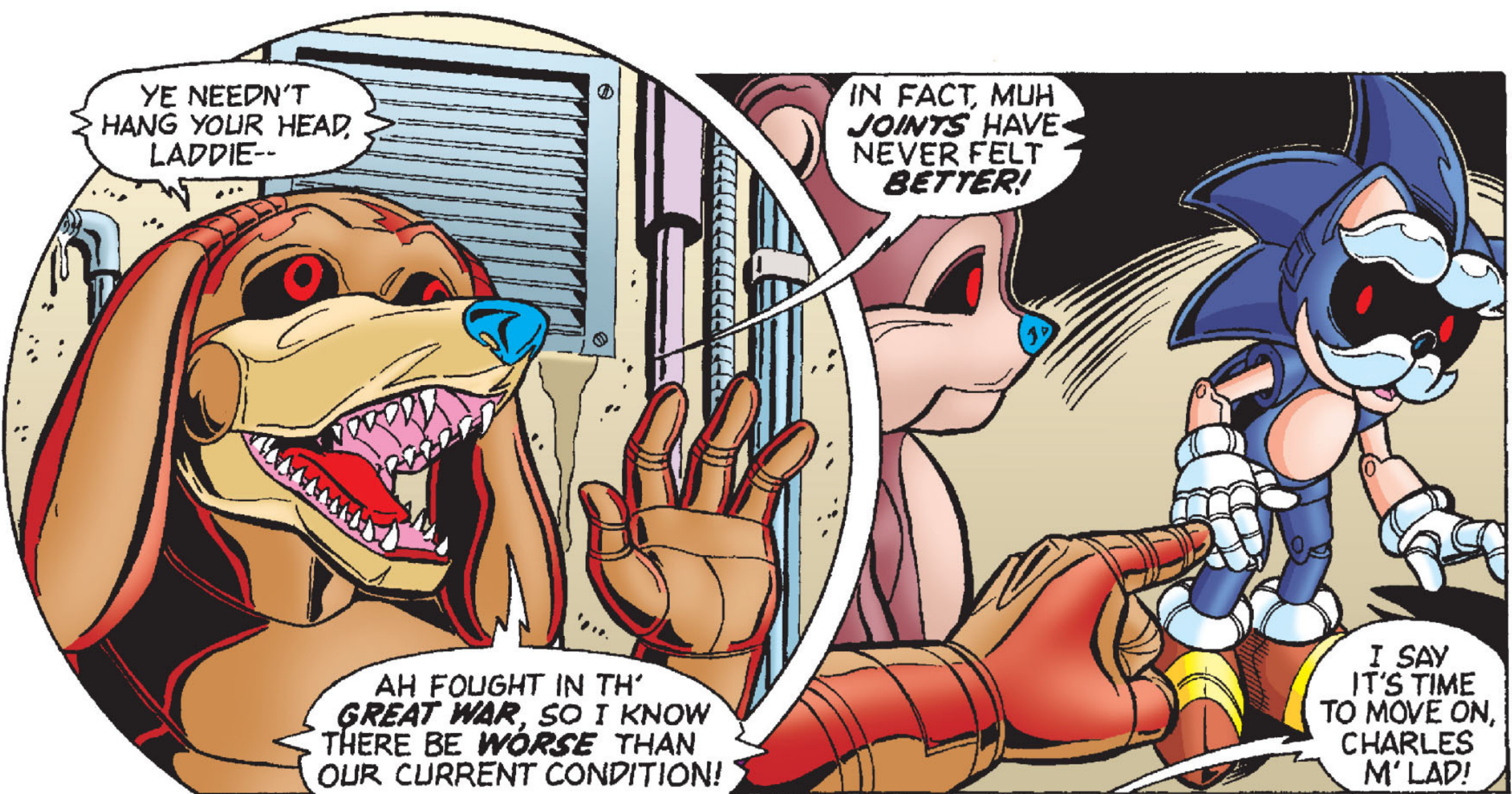
AND IF--
BY SOME
MIRACLE--

--EVEN IF I WAS
ABLE TO **RE-BUILD**
IT TO THE **SAME**
SPECS--

ANY **ROUTINE MAINTEN-
ANCE** OR EVEN A **MINOR**
ALTERATION PERFORMED
AFFECTED YOUR **CELLULAR**
STRUCTURE!

I COULD **NOT** GUARANTEE
YOUR **SURVIVING** THE
PROCESS!

I'M
VERY
SORRY!





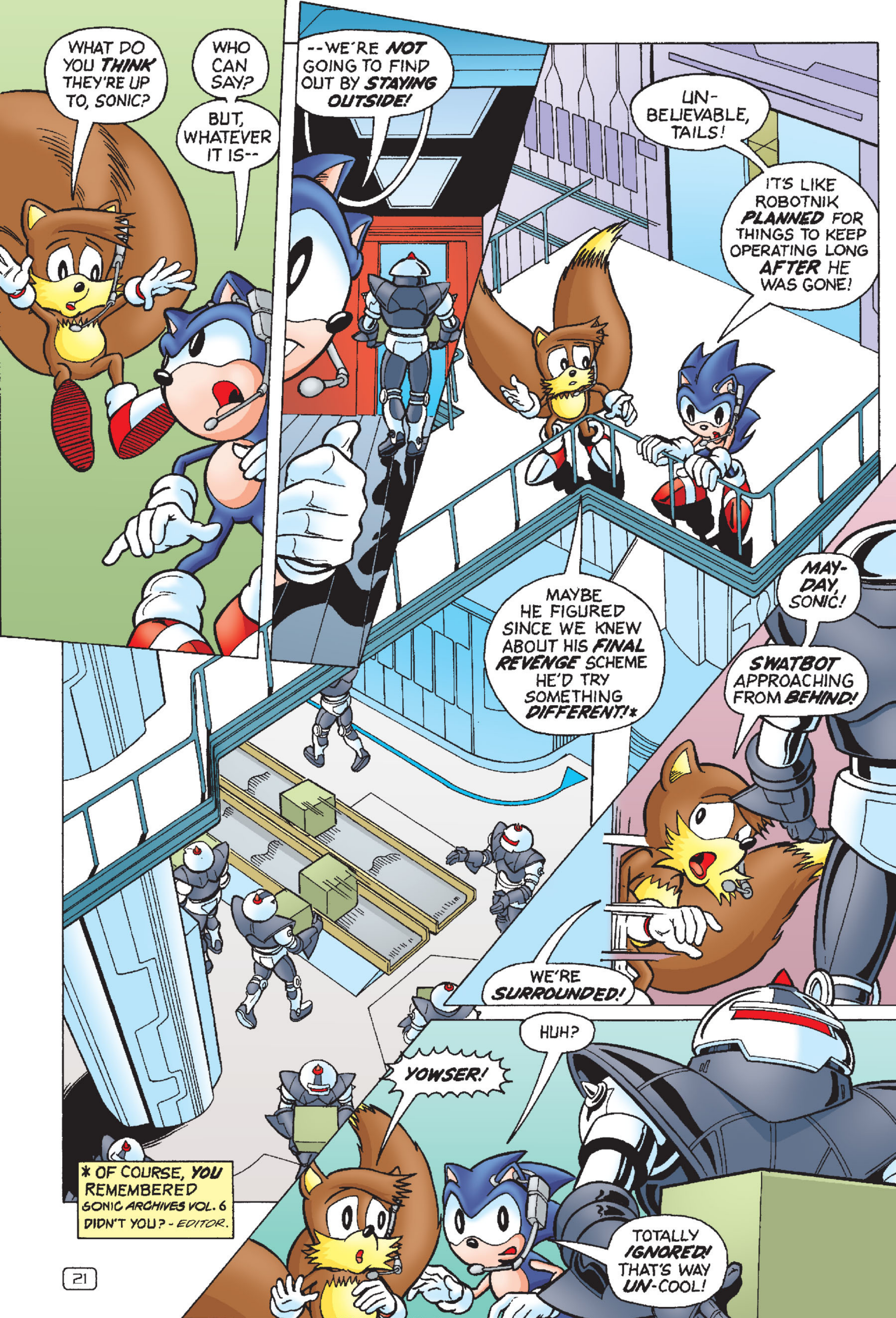
JUST STAY ABOVE THEM, TAILS! DON'T GET RECKLESS!

I'M OKAY! THEY HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED ME!

--I'LL BE THERE IN A FLASH!

CHECK! I'M COMING DOWN!

WELL, HANG ON--



WHAT DO YOU *THINK* THEY'RE UP TO, SONIC?

WHO CAN SAY?

BUT, WHATEVER IT IS--

--WE'RE *NOT* GOING TO FIND OUT BY *STAYING OUTSIDE!*

UN-BELIEVABLE, TAILS!

IT'S LIKE ROBOTNIK *PLANNED* FOR THINGS TO KEEP OPERATING LONG *AFTER* HE WAS GONE!

MAYBE HE FIGURED SINCE WE KNEW ABOUT HIS *FINAL REVENGE* SCHEME HE'D TRY SOMETHING *DIFFERENT!**

MAY-DAY, SONIC!

SWATBOT APPROACHING FROM *BEHIND!*

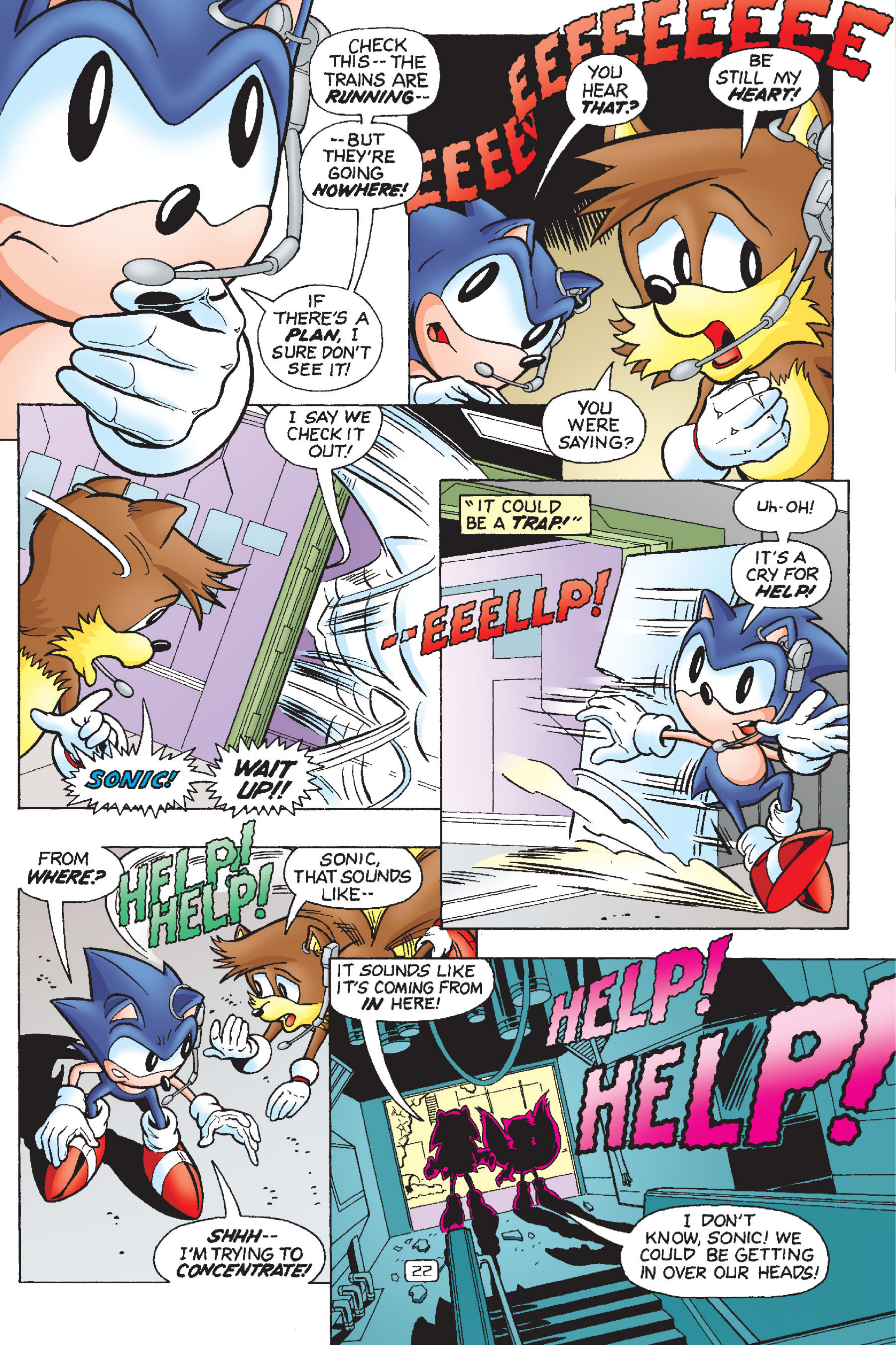
WE'RE *SURROUNDED!*

HUH?

YOWSER!

TOTALLY *IGNORED!* THAT'S WAY UN-COOL!

* OF COURSE, YOU REMEMBERED SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 6 DIDN'T YOU? - EDITOR.



CHECK THIS-- THE TRAINS ARE **RUNNING**--

-- BUT THEY'RE GOING **NOWHERE!**

IF THERE'S A **PLAN**, I SURE DON'T SEE IT!

I SAY WE CHECK IT OUT!

YOU HEAR THAT?

BE STILL MY **HEART!**

YOU WERE SAYING?

"IT COULD BE A **TRAP!**"

UH-OH!

IT'S A CRY FOR **HELP!**

---EEELLP!

FROM **WHERE?**

HELP! HELP!

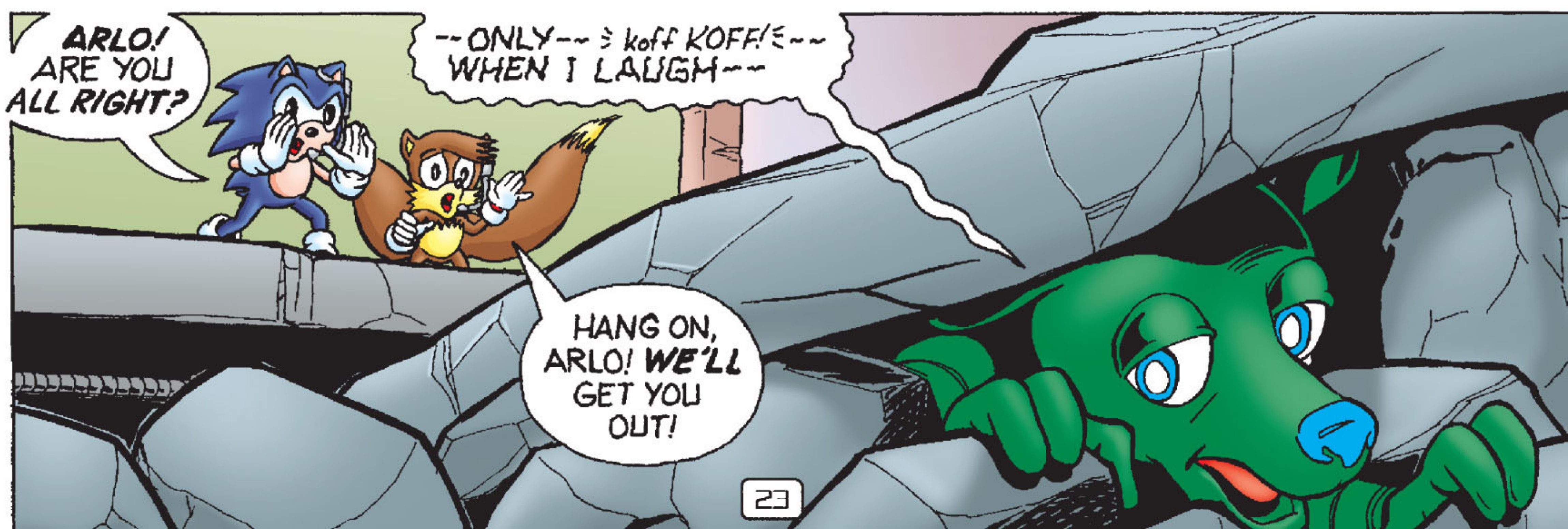
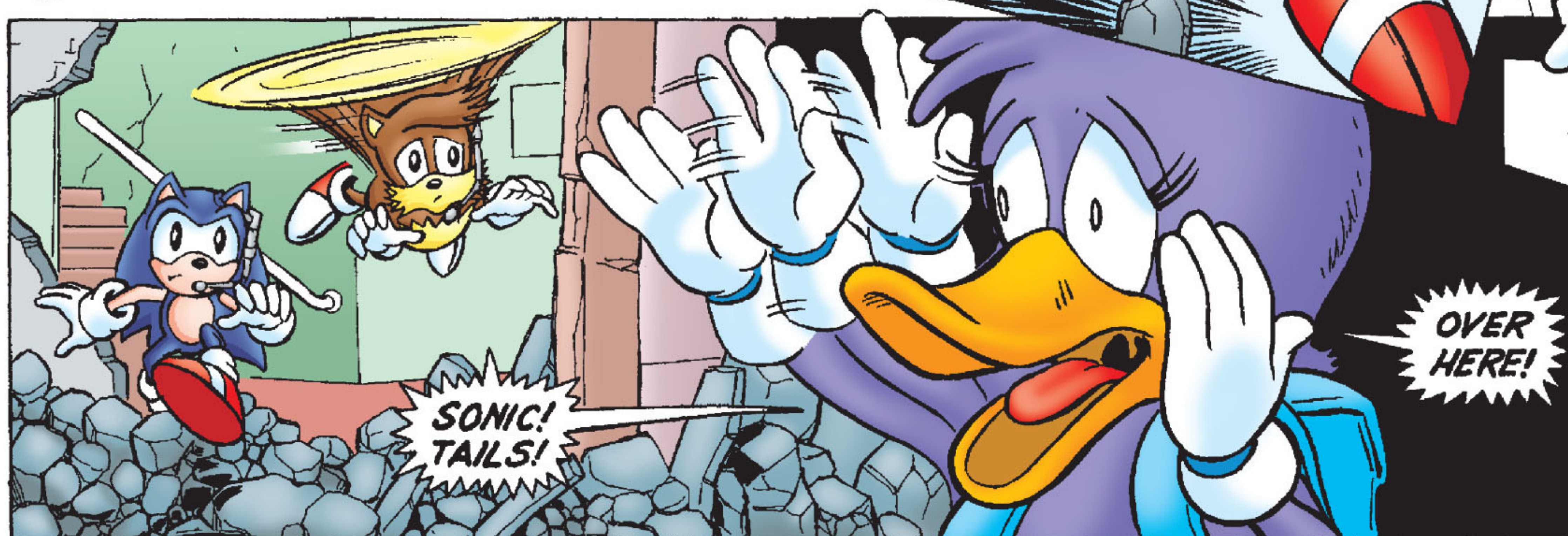
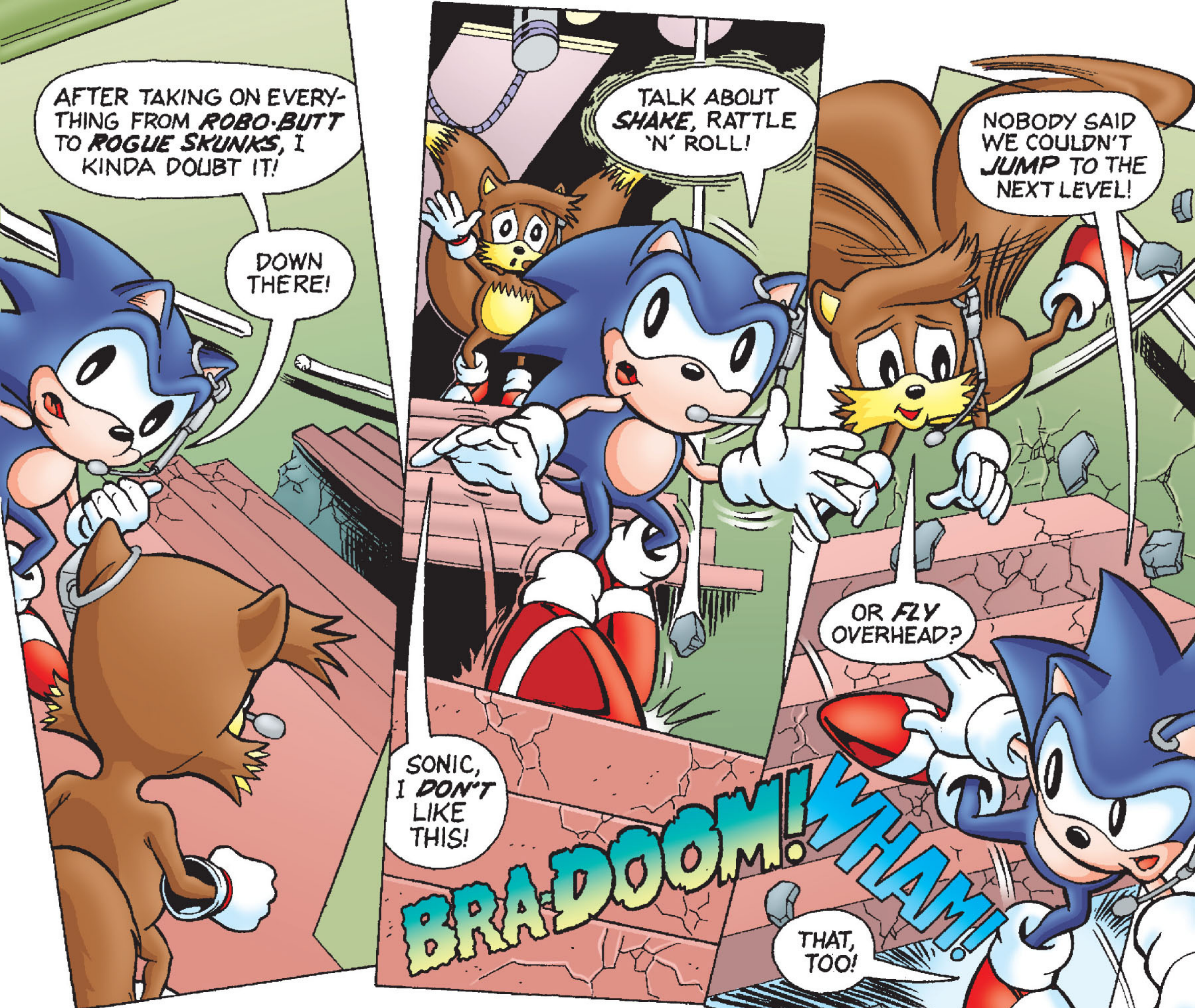
SONIC, THAT SOUNDS LIKE--

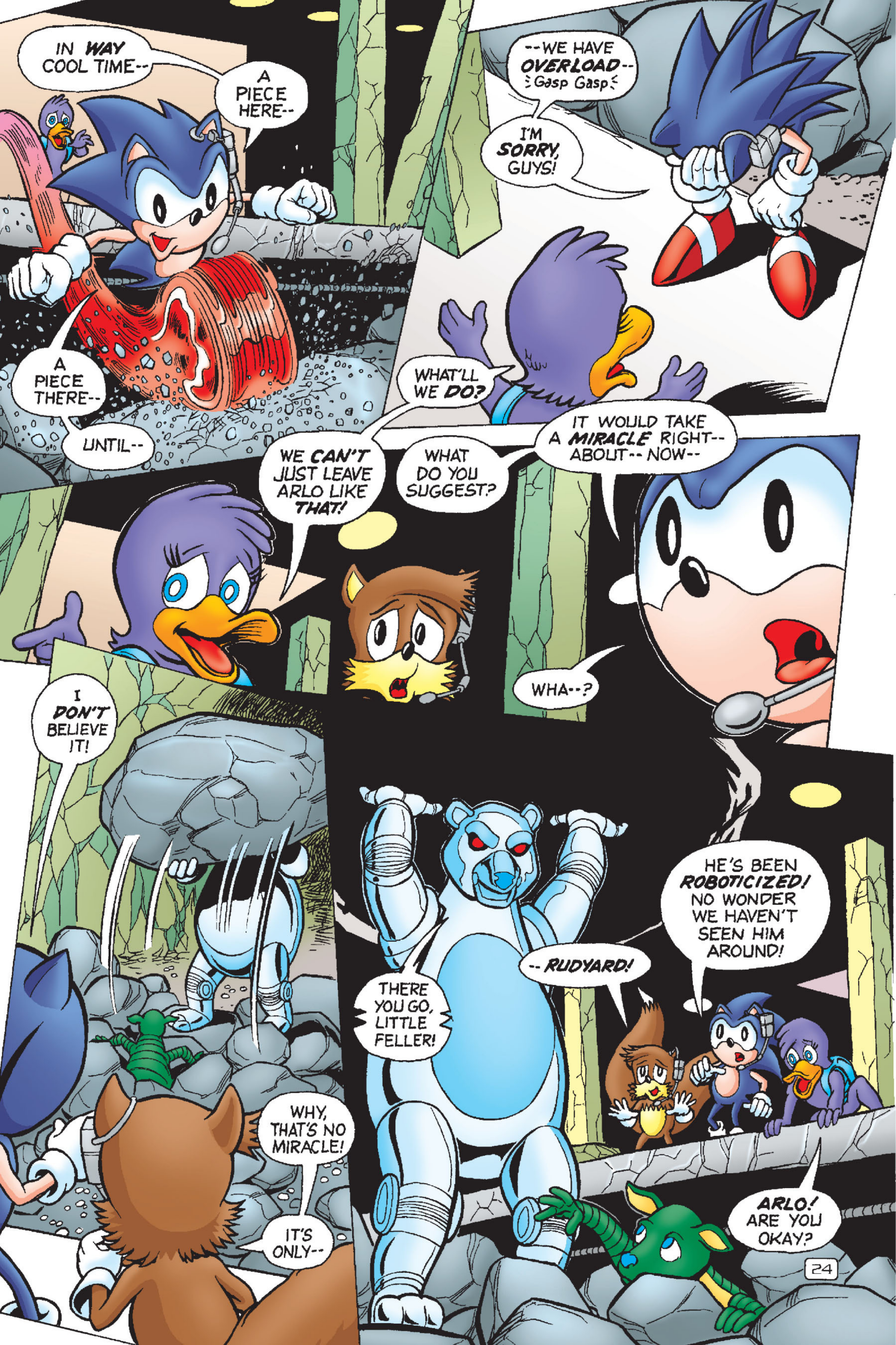
IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM **IN HERE!**

HELP! HELP!

SHHH--
I'M TRYING TO **CONCENTRATE!**

I DON'T KNOW, SONIC! WE COULD BE GETTING IN OVER OUR HEADS!





IN WAY COOL TIME--

A PIECE HERE--

--WE HAVE OVERLOAD--
Gasp Gasp

I'M SORRY, GUYS!

A PIECE THERE--

UNTIL--

WHAT'LL WE DO?

IT WOULD TAKE A **MIRACLE** RIGHT-- ABOUT-- NOW--

WE **CAN'T** JUST LEAVE ARLO LIKE **THAT!**

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

I **DON'T** BELIEVE IT!

WHA--?

HE'S BEEN **ROBOTICIZED!** NO WONDER WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AROUND!

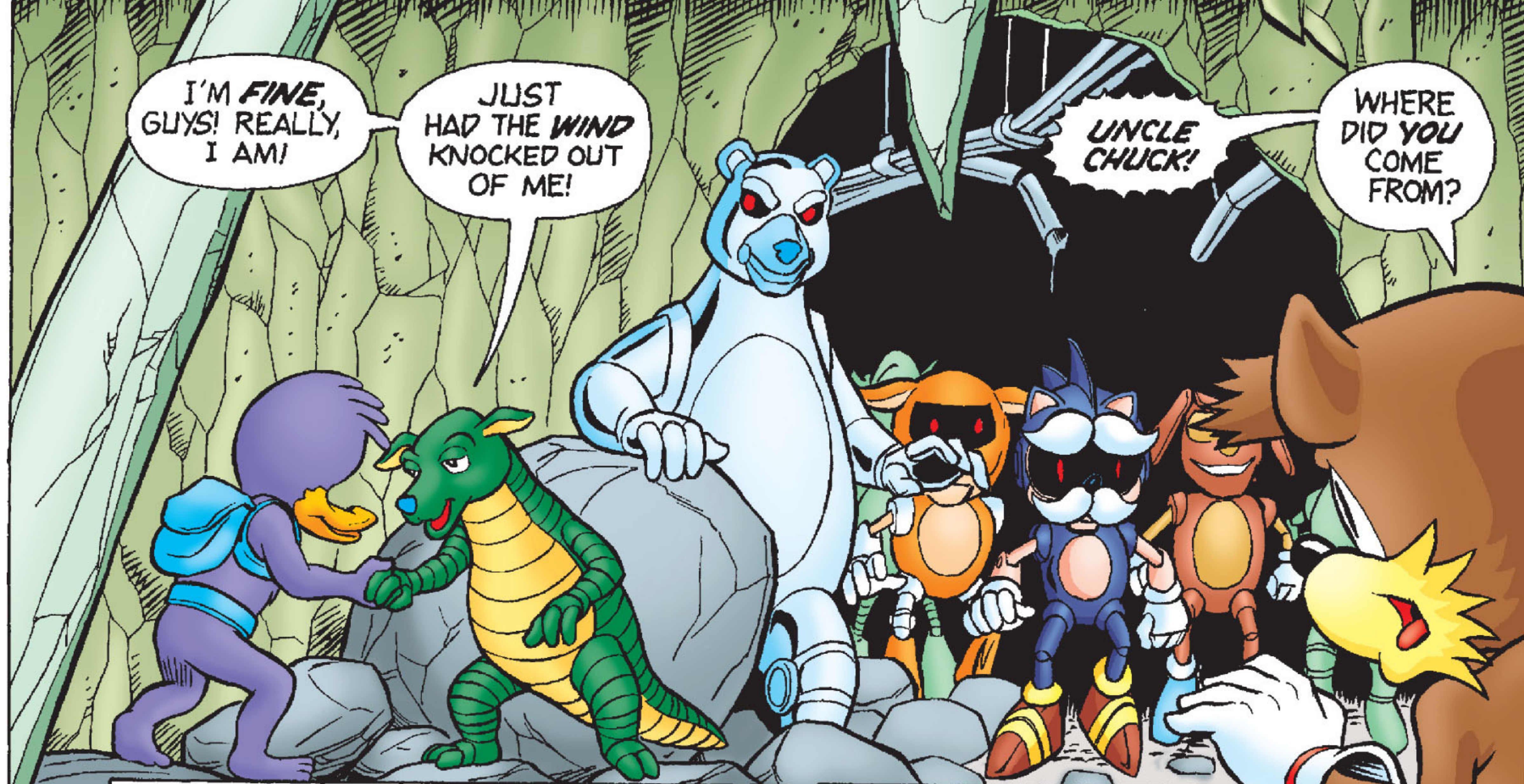
-- **RUDYARD!**

THERE YOU GO, LITTLE FELLER!

WHY, THAT'S NO **MIRACLE!**

IT'S ONLY--

ARLO! ARE YOU OKAY?



I'M **FINE**, GUYS! REALLY, I AM!

JUST HAD THE **WIND** KNOCKED OUT OF ME!

UNCLE CHUCK!

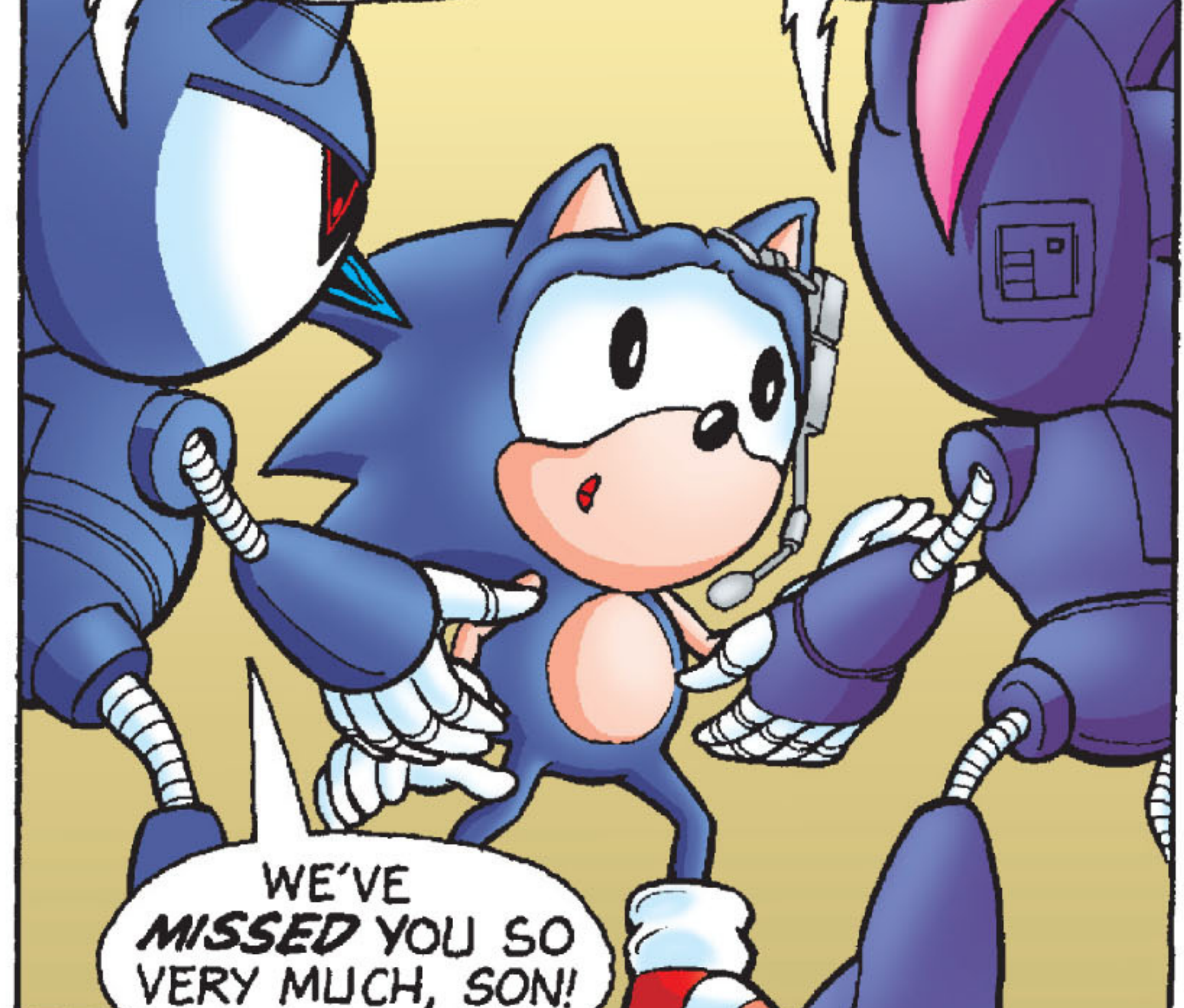
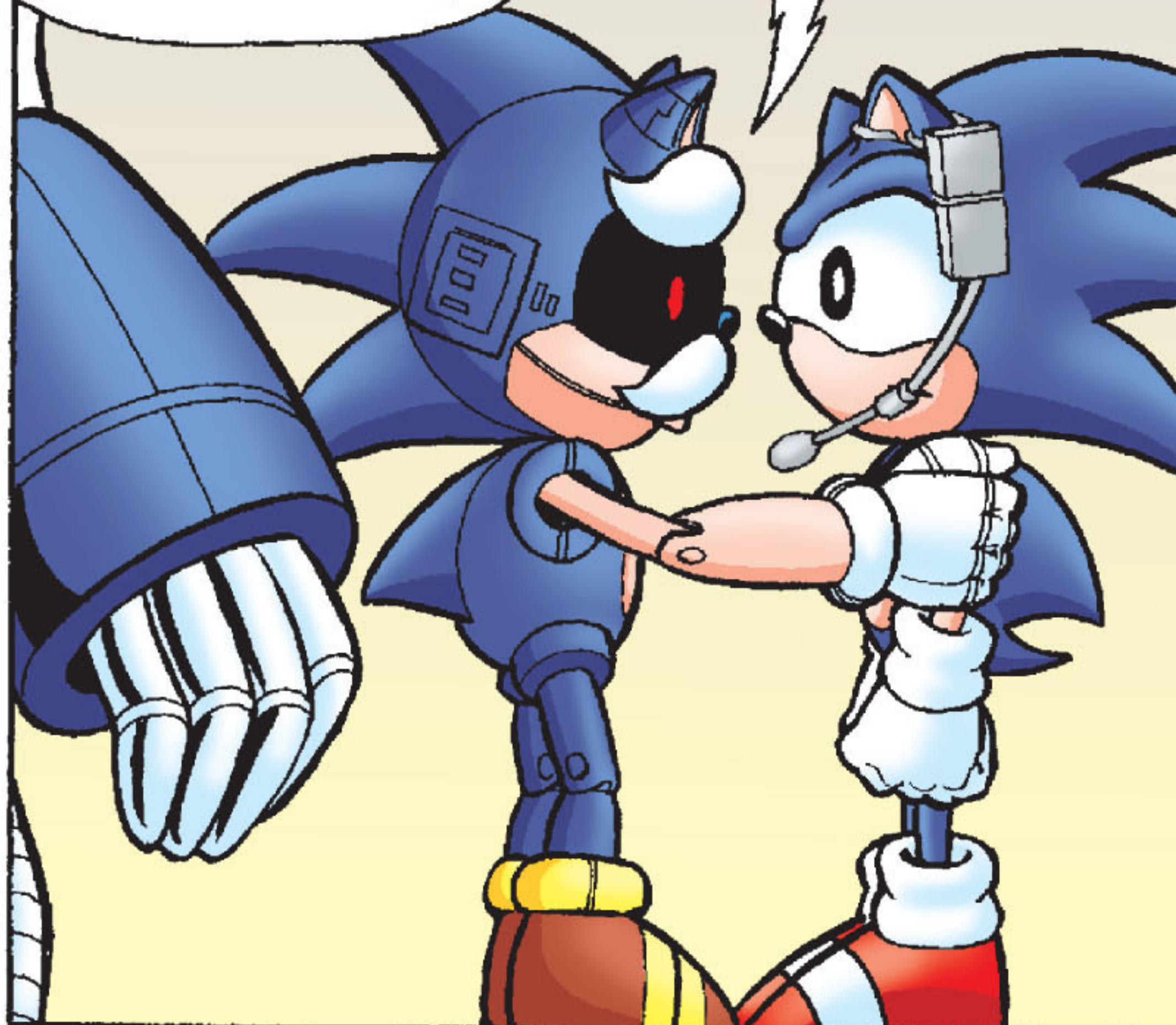
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

I HAD TO GO TELL SOME FOLKS THE **GOOD** NEWS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED!

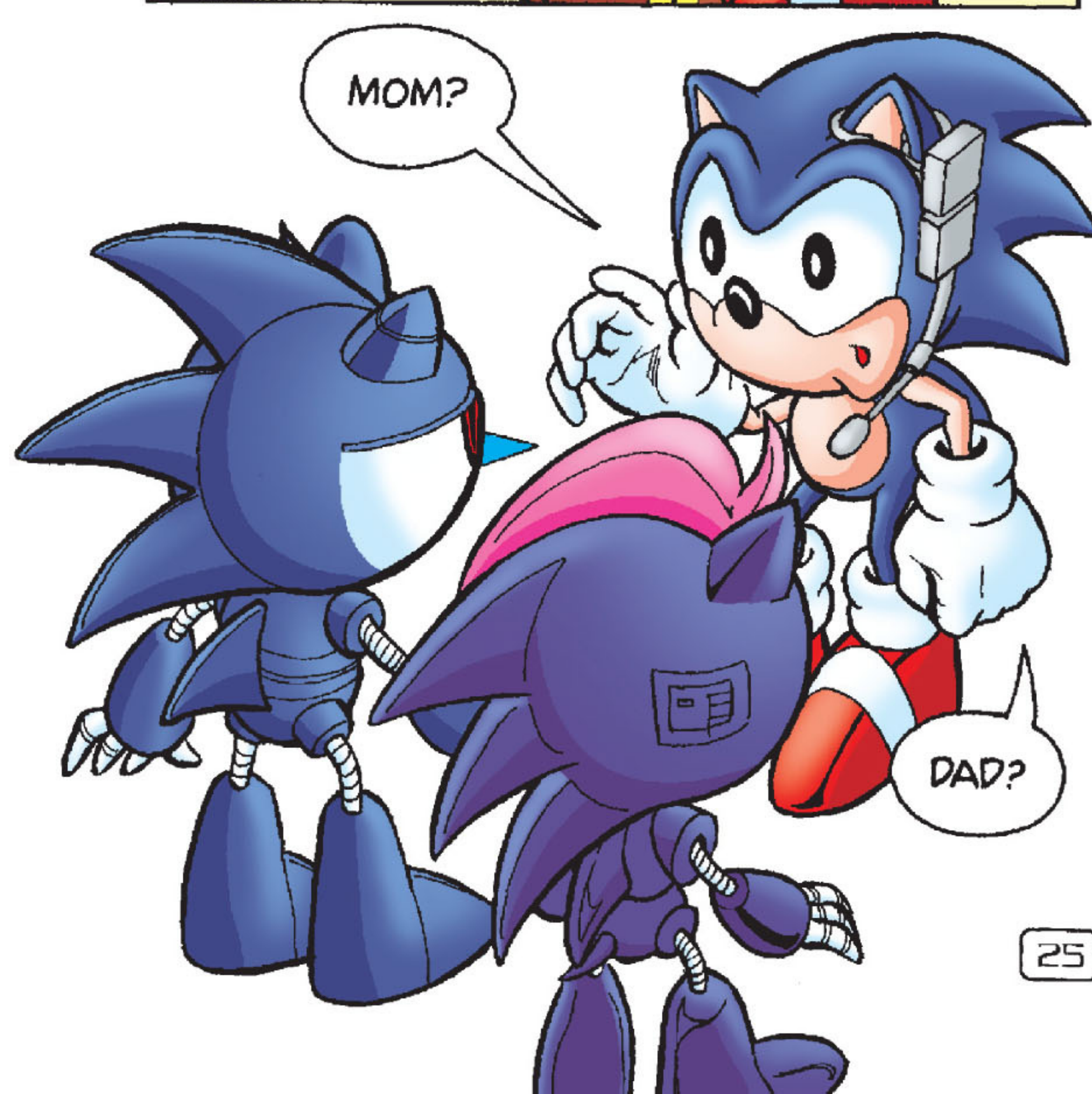
ESPECIALLY A COUPLE THAT **COULDN'T** WAIT TO SEE YOU, LAD!

I'M SURE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOUR OWN **PARENTS**, SONIC!

HELLO, DEAR! IT'S BEEN WAY TOO LONG!

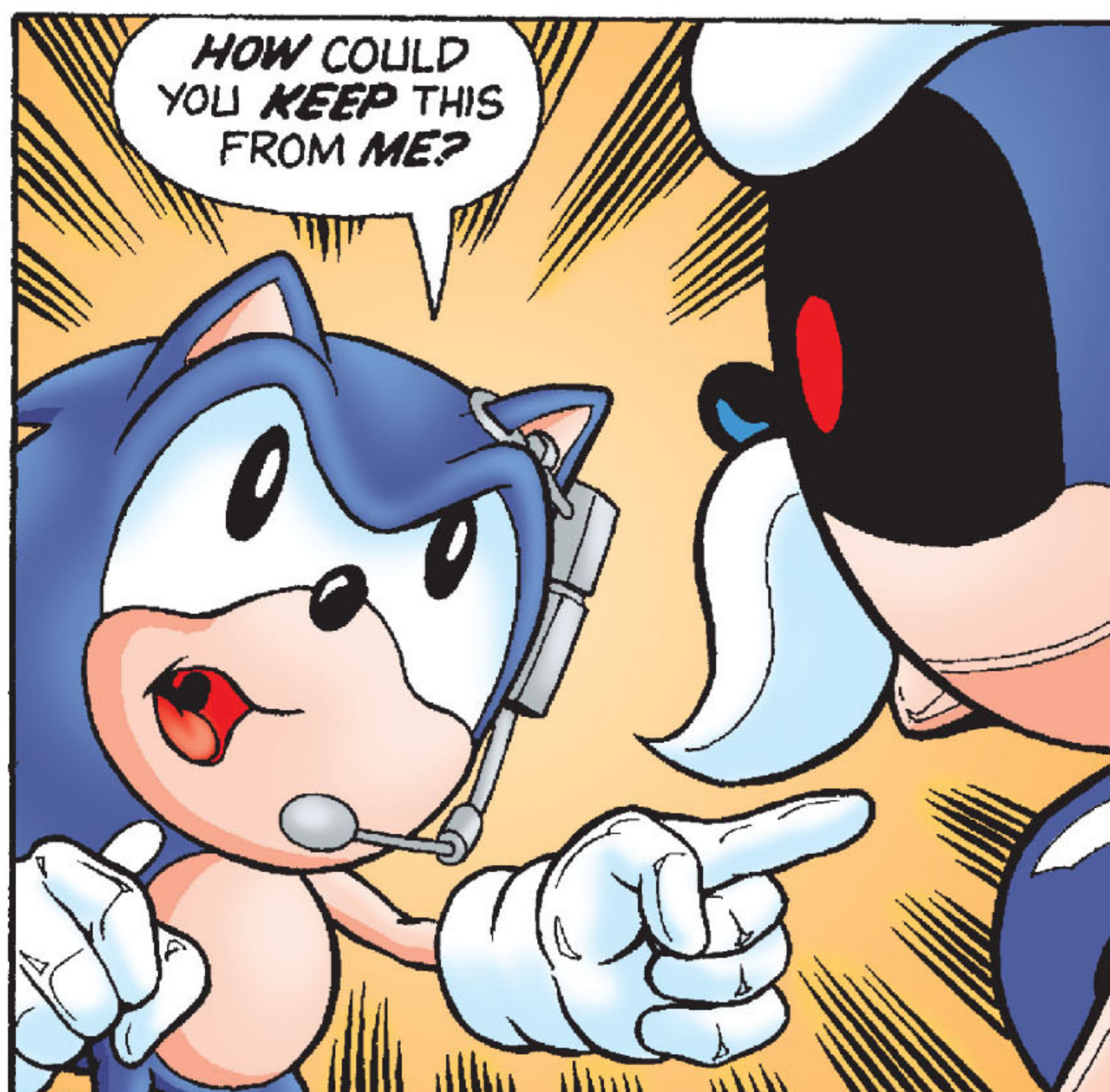


WE'VE **MISSED** YOU SO VERY MUCH, SON!



MOM?

DAD?



HOW COULD YOU **KEEP** THIS FROM ME?

SONIC!
WAIT!

LET ME
EXPLAIN!

SON, YOUR
UNCLE CHUCK
WAS *ONLY* DOING
WHAT WE ASKED
HIM TO!

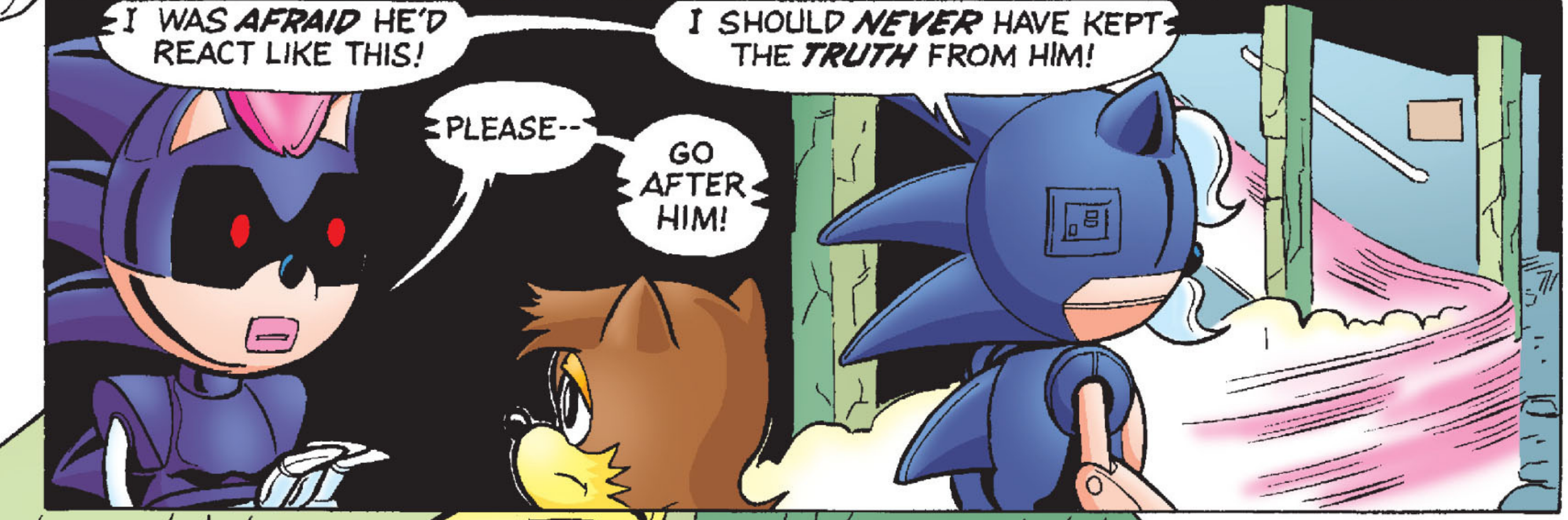


I WAS AFRAID HE'D
REACT LIKE THIS!

I SHOULD *NEVER* HAVE KEPT
THE *TRUTH* FROM HIM!

PLEASE--

GO
AFTER
HIM!

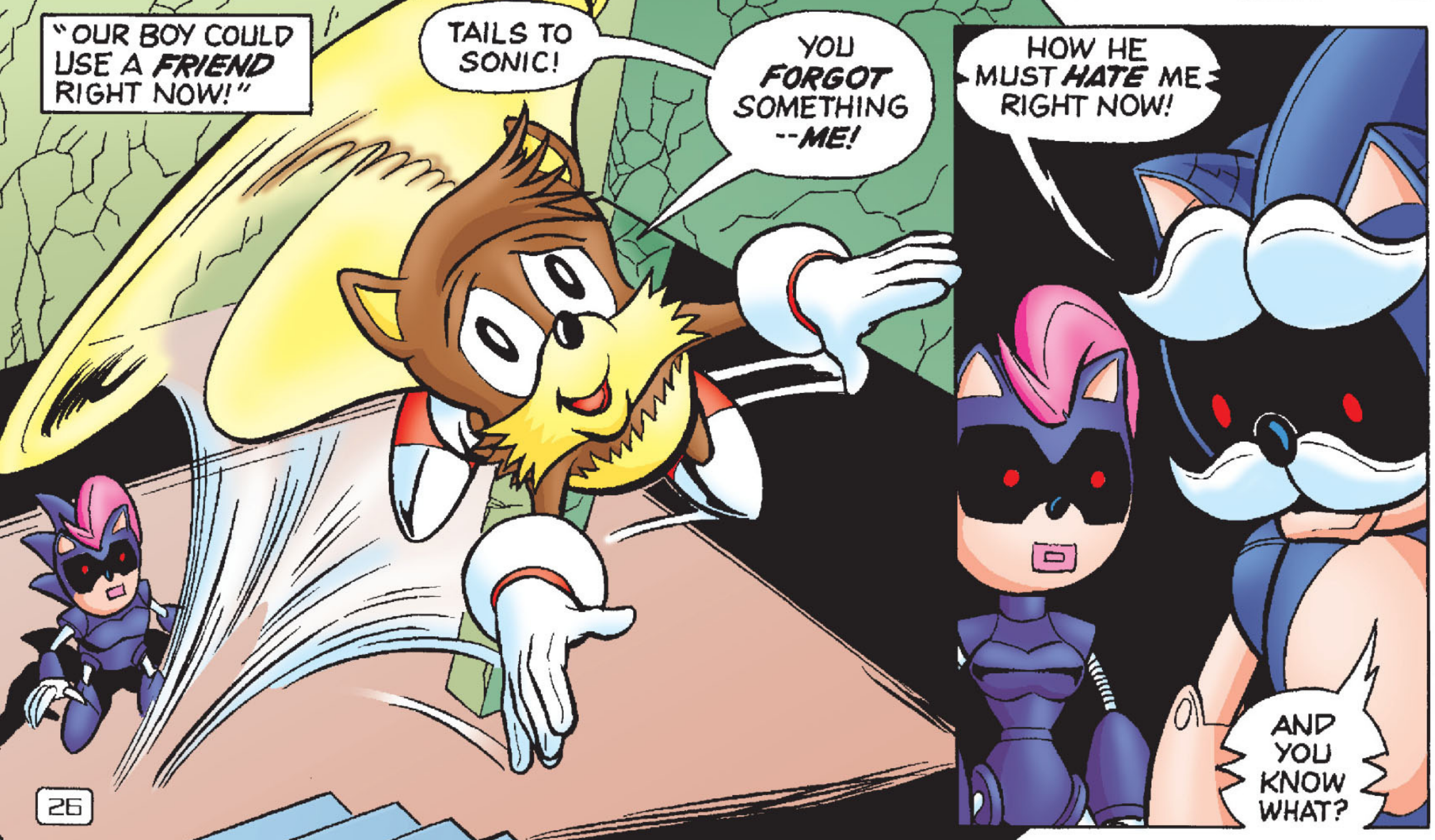


"OUR BOY COULD
USE A *FRIEND*
RIGHT NOW!"

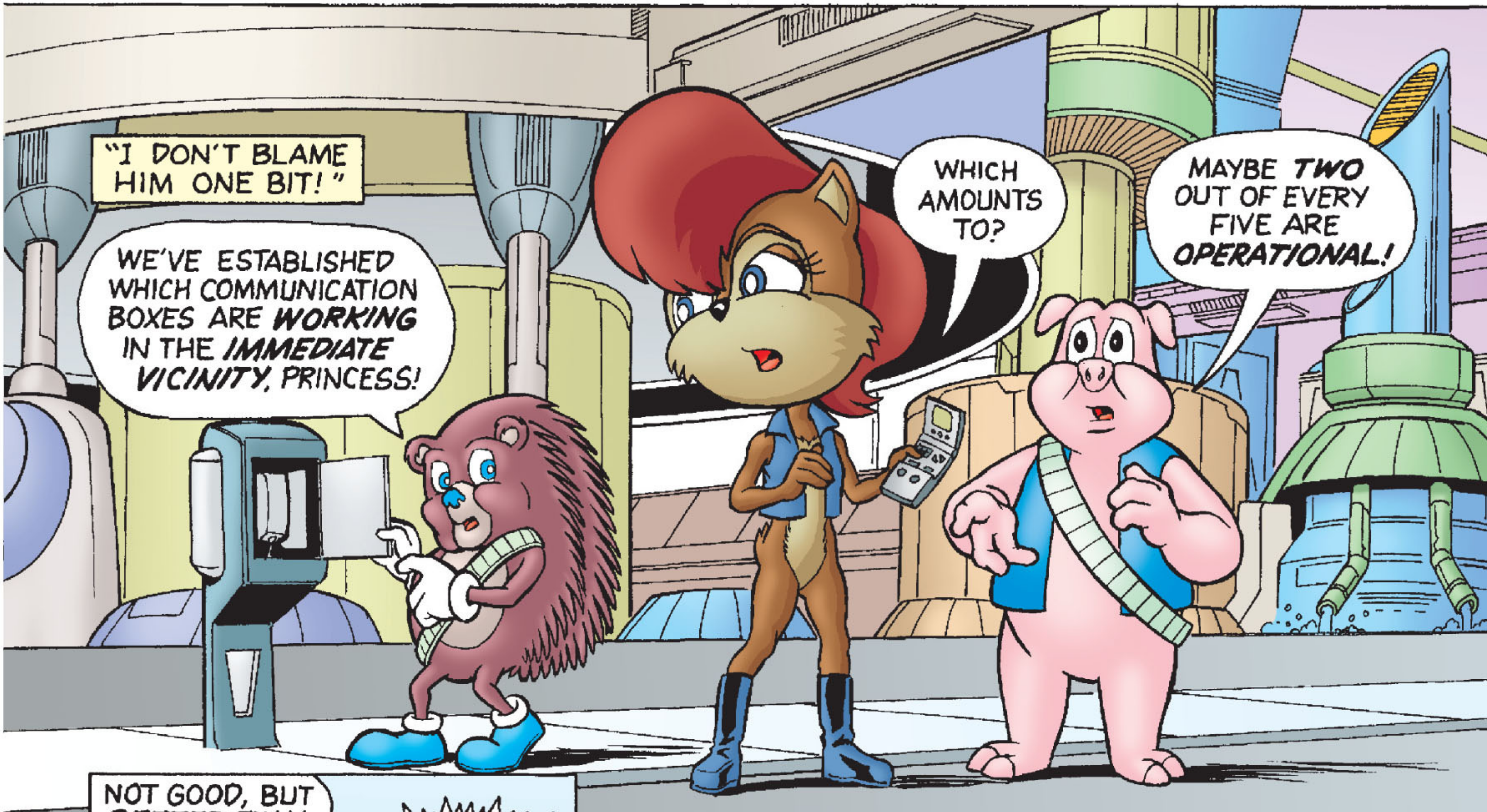
TAILS TO
SONIC!

YOU
FORGOT
SOMETHING
--ME!

HOW HE
MUST *HATE* ME
RIGHT NOW!



AND
YOU
KNOW
WHAT?

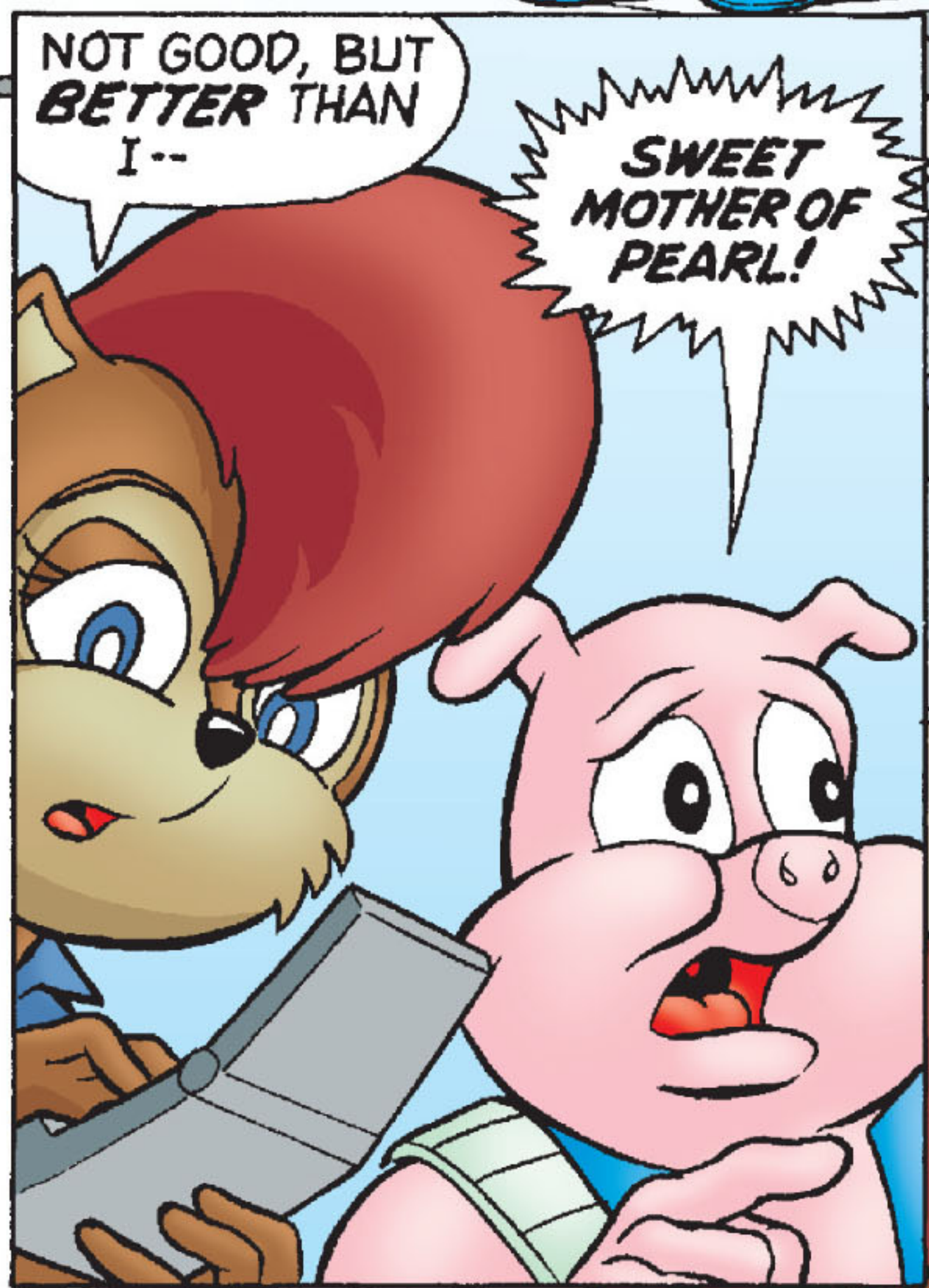


"I DON'T BLAME HIM ONE BIT!"

WE'VE ESTABLISHED WHICH COMMUNICATION BOXES ARE *WORKING* IN THE *IMMEDIATE VICINITY*, PRINCESS!

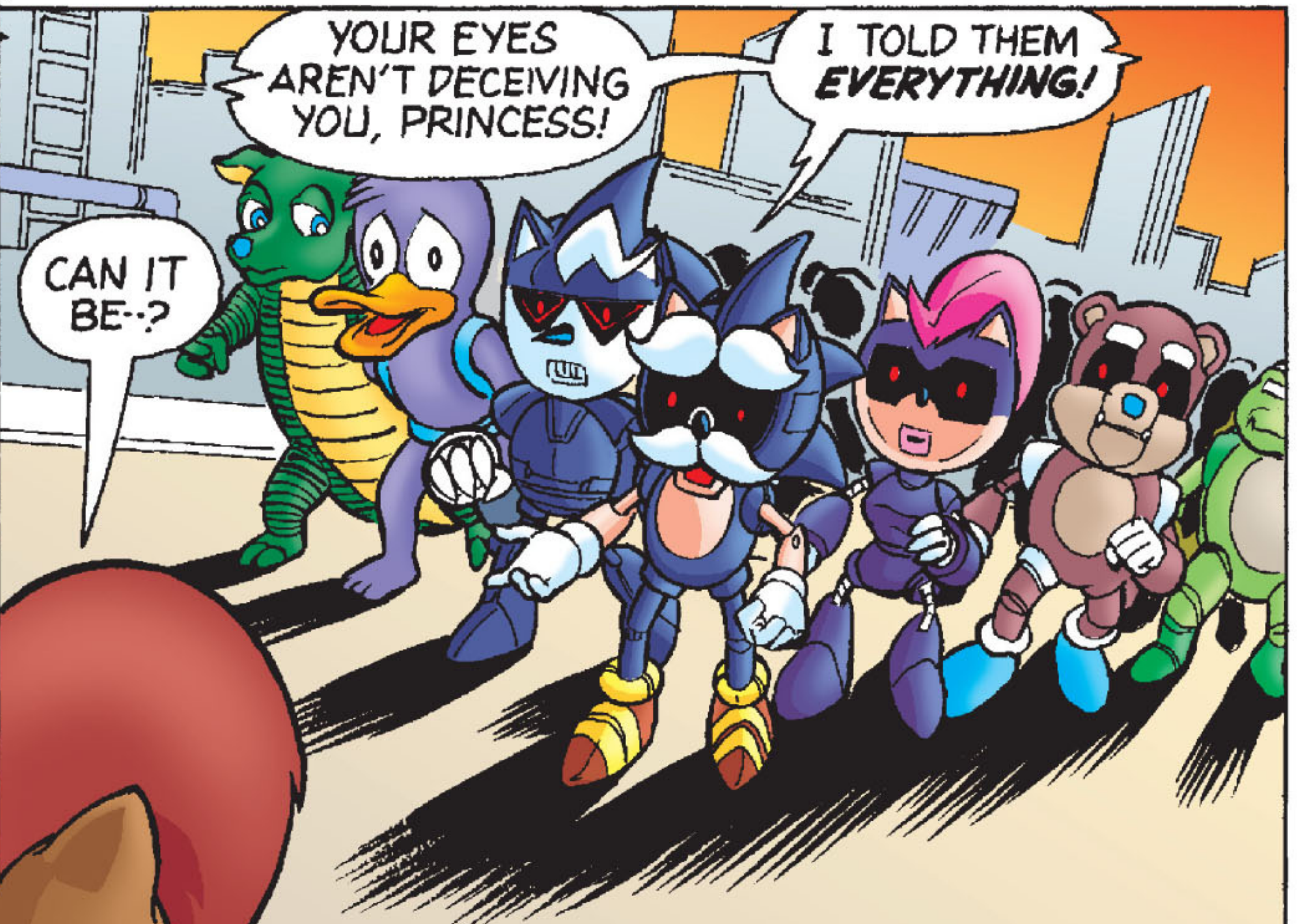
WHICH AMOUNTS TO?

MAYBE *TWO* OUT OF EVERY FIVE ARE *OPERATIONAL*!



NOT GOOD, BUT *BETTER* THAN I--

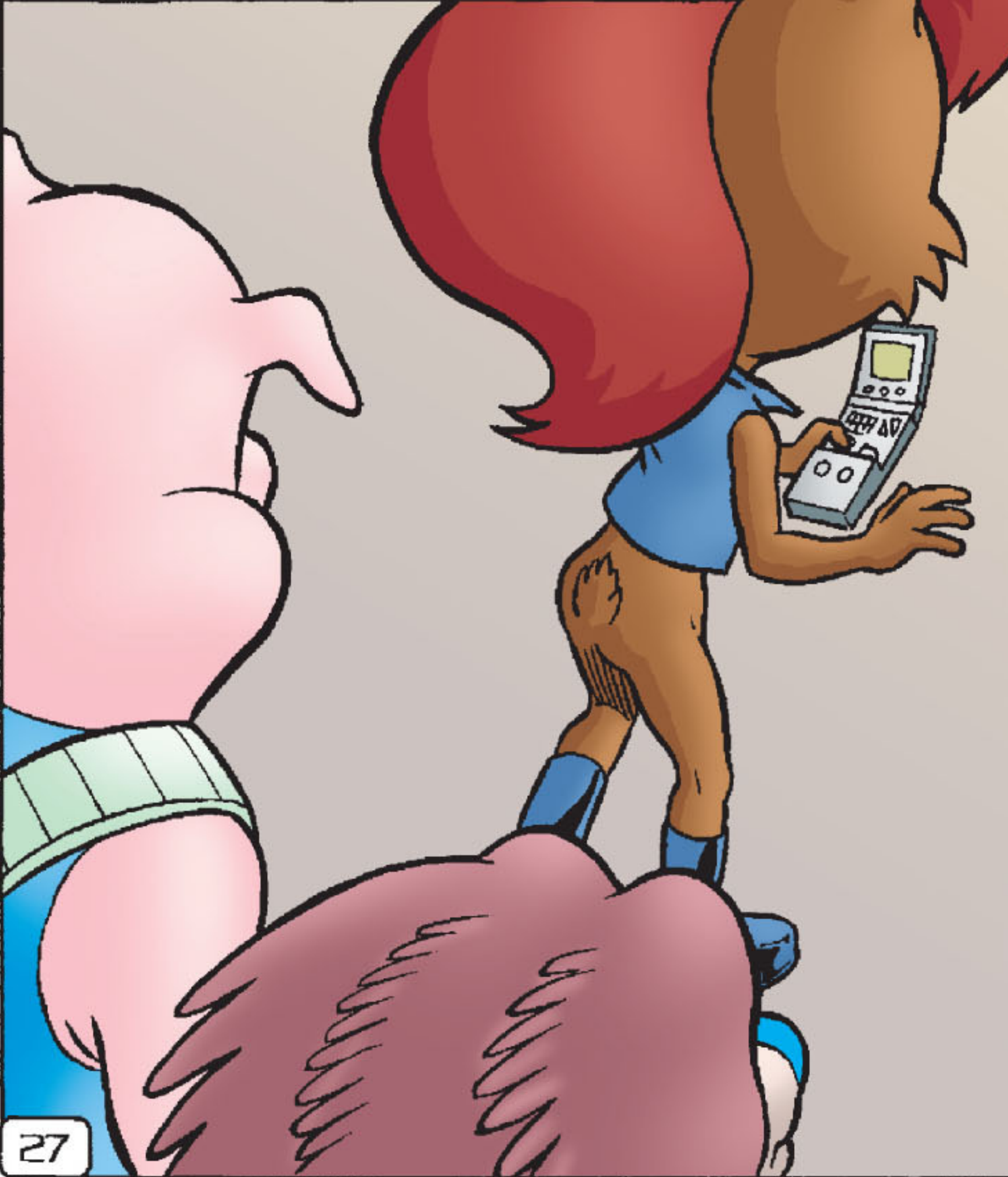
SWEET MOTHER OF PEARL!



CAN IT BE--?

YOUR EYES AREN'T DECEIVING YOU, PRINCESS!

I TOLD THEM *EVERYTHING*!

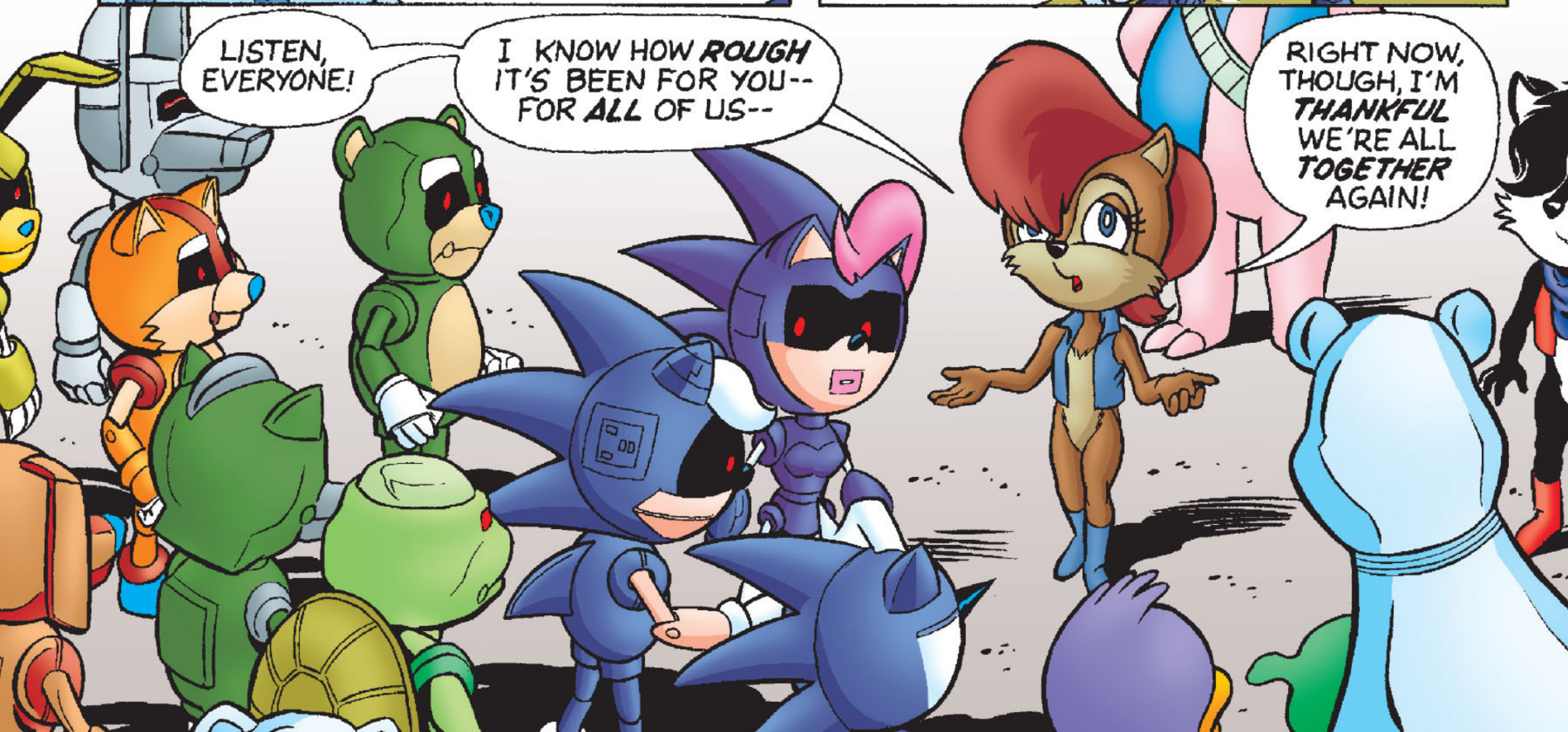
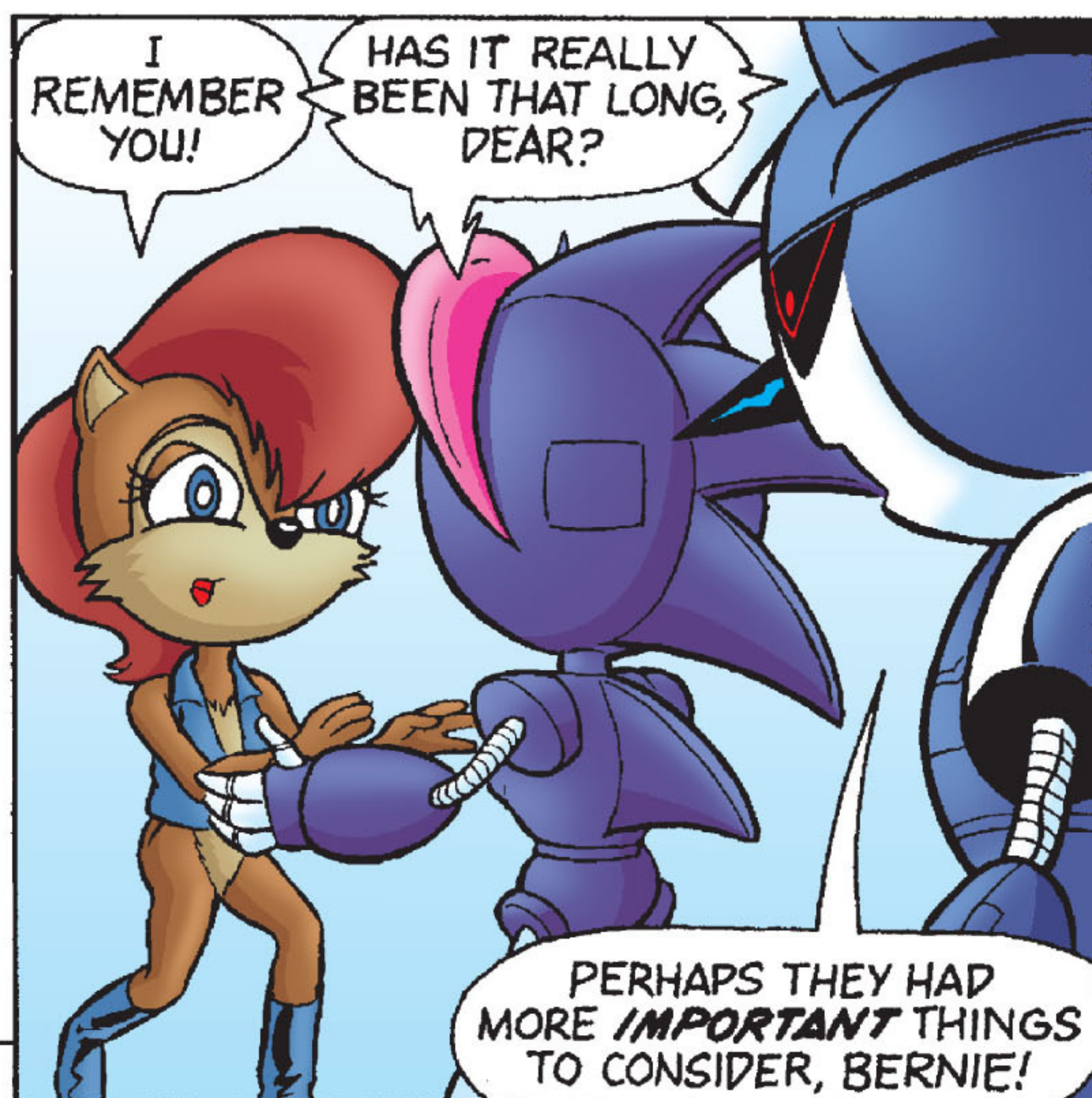


SO *THIS* IS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO!

I ONLY WISH SONIC *SHARED* YOUR *SENTIMENTS*!

I KNOW THEY *LOOK* LIKE US, DYLAN--

BUT AREN'T THEY STILL *ROBOTS*?



"SOME MORE
THAN *OTHERS*,
IT SEEMS!"

**HE
KNEW!**

**ALL THIS
TIME--AND
HE KNEW,
TAILS!!**

HE SHOULD
HAVE *TOLD* ME
MY *PARENTS*
WERE *ALIVE*!

HE HAD
NO RIGHT TO
KEEP IT A
SECRET!

HE TOLD
ME THEY WERE
CASUALTIES
OF *WAR*--

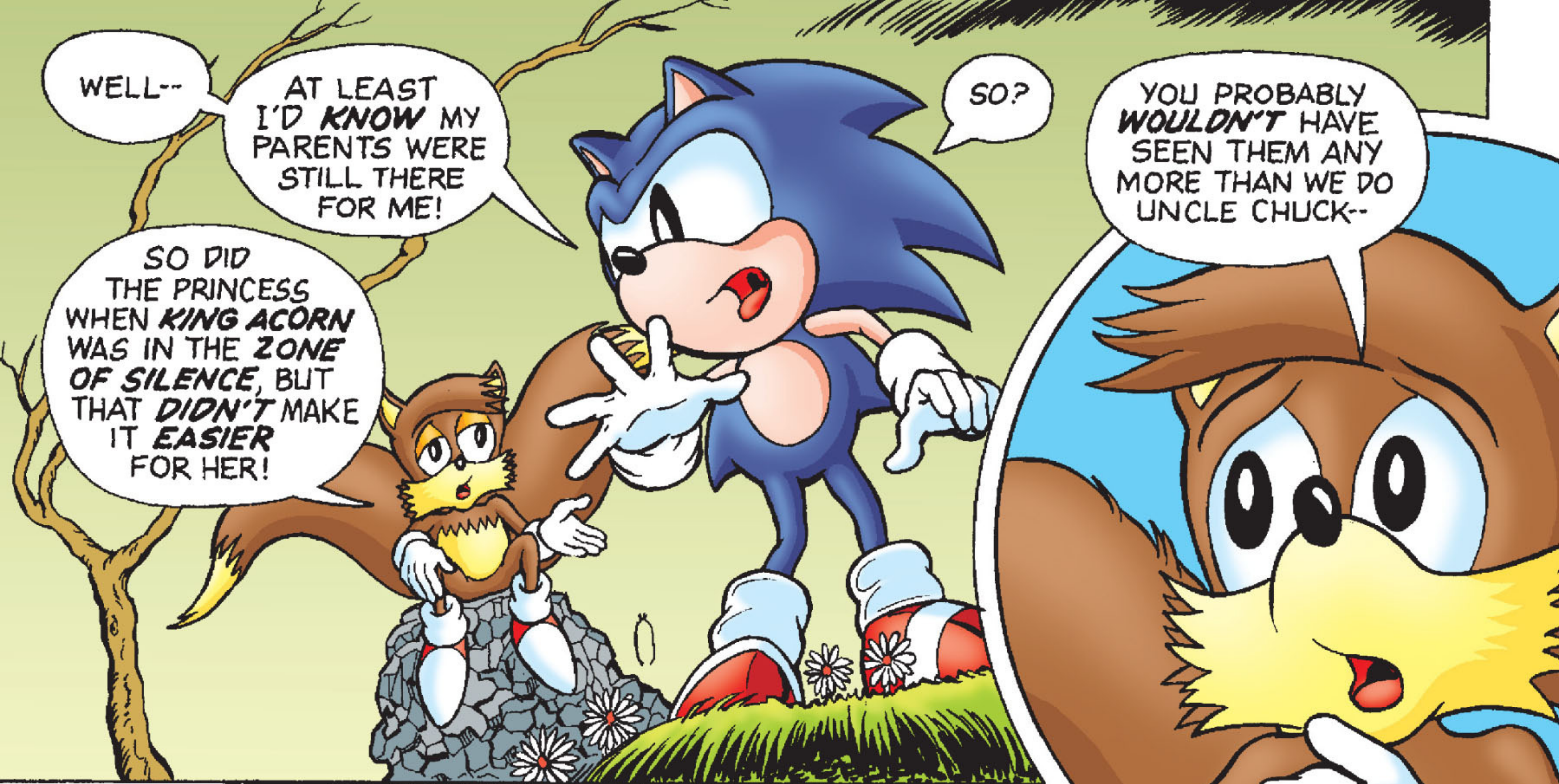
--AND
ALL THIS TIME
MY PARENTS
WERE *LIVING* UNDER
ROBOTROPOLIS!

THEY *WERE*
CASUALTIES,
SONIC!

LAST I SAW
THEY LOOKED
ROBOTICIZED
TO ME!

IF
UNCLE CHUCK
HAD TOLD YOU
THE *FULL*
TRUTH--

WHAT
WOULD BE
DIFFERENT?



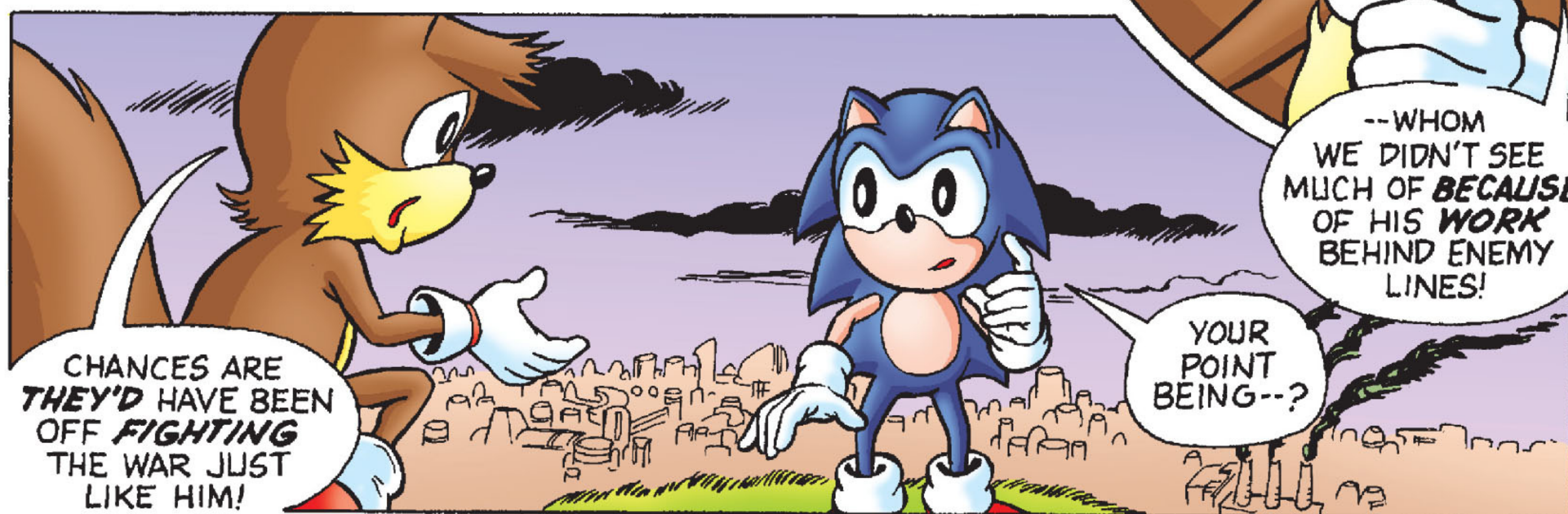
WELL--

AT LEAST
I'D **KNOW** MY
PARENTS WERE
STILL THERE
FOR ME!

SO DID
THE PRINCESS
WHEN **KING ACORN**
WAS IN THE **ZONE**
OF SILENCE, BUT
THAT **DIDN'T** MAKE
IT **EASIER**
FOR HER!

SO?

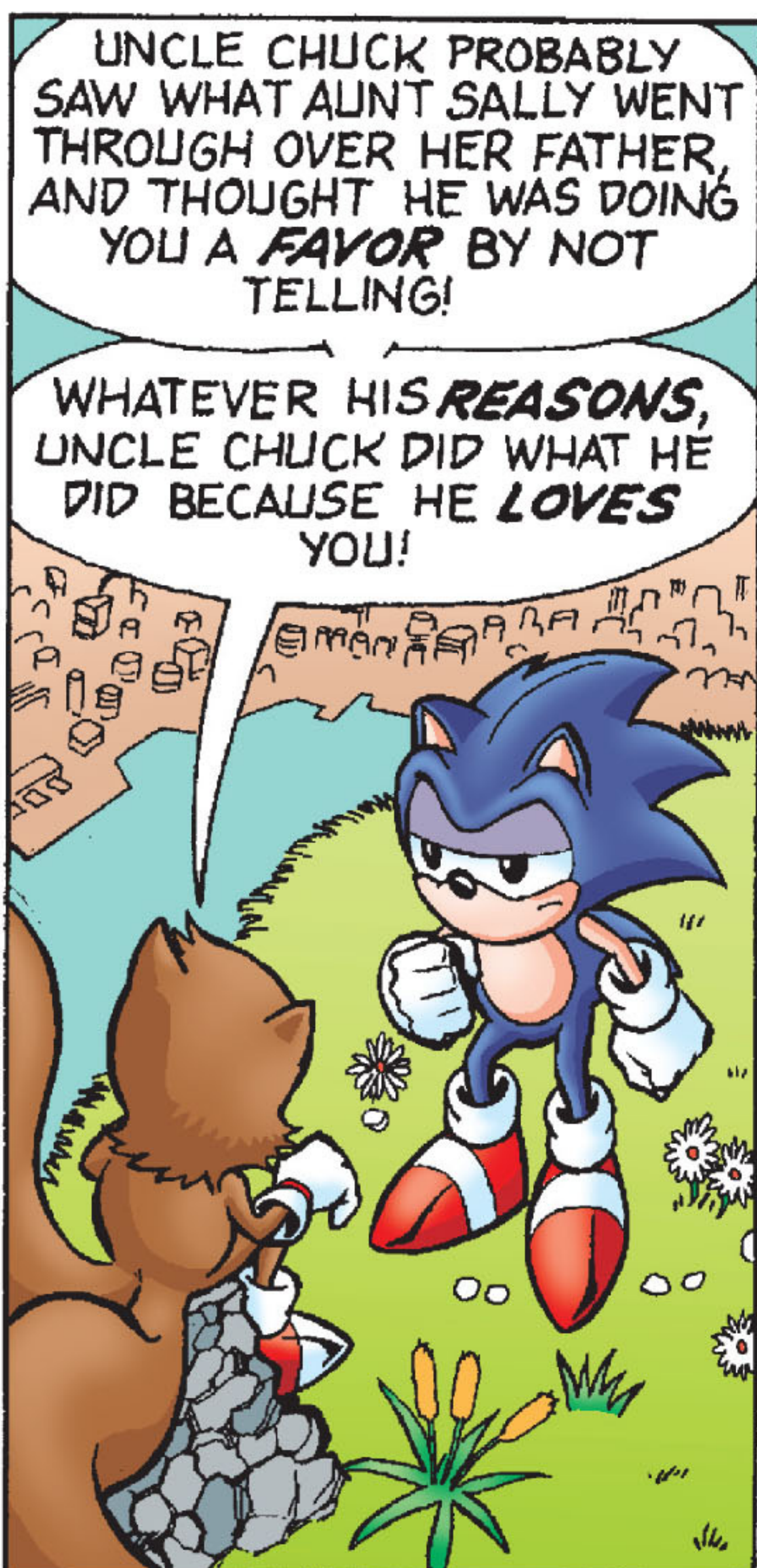
YOU PROBABLY
WOULDN'T HAVE
SEEN THEM ANY
MORE THAN WE DO
UNCLE CHUCK--



CHANCES ARE
THEY'D HAVE BEEN
OFF **FIGHTING**
THE WAR JUST
LIKE HIM!

--WHOM
WE DIDN'T SEE
MUCH OF **BECAUSE**
OF HIS **WORK**
BEHIND ENEMY
LINES!

YOUR
POINT
BEING--?



UNCLE CHUCK PROBABLY
SAW WHAT AUNT SALLY WENT
THROUGH OVER HER FATHER,
AND THOUGHT HE WAS DOING
YOU A **FAVOR** BY NOT
TELLING!

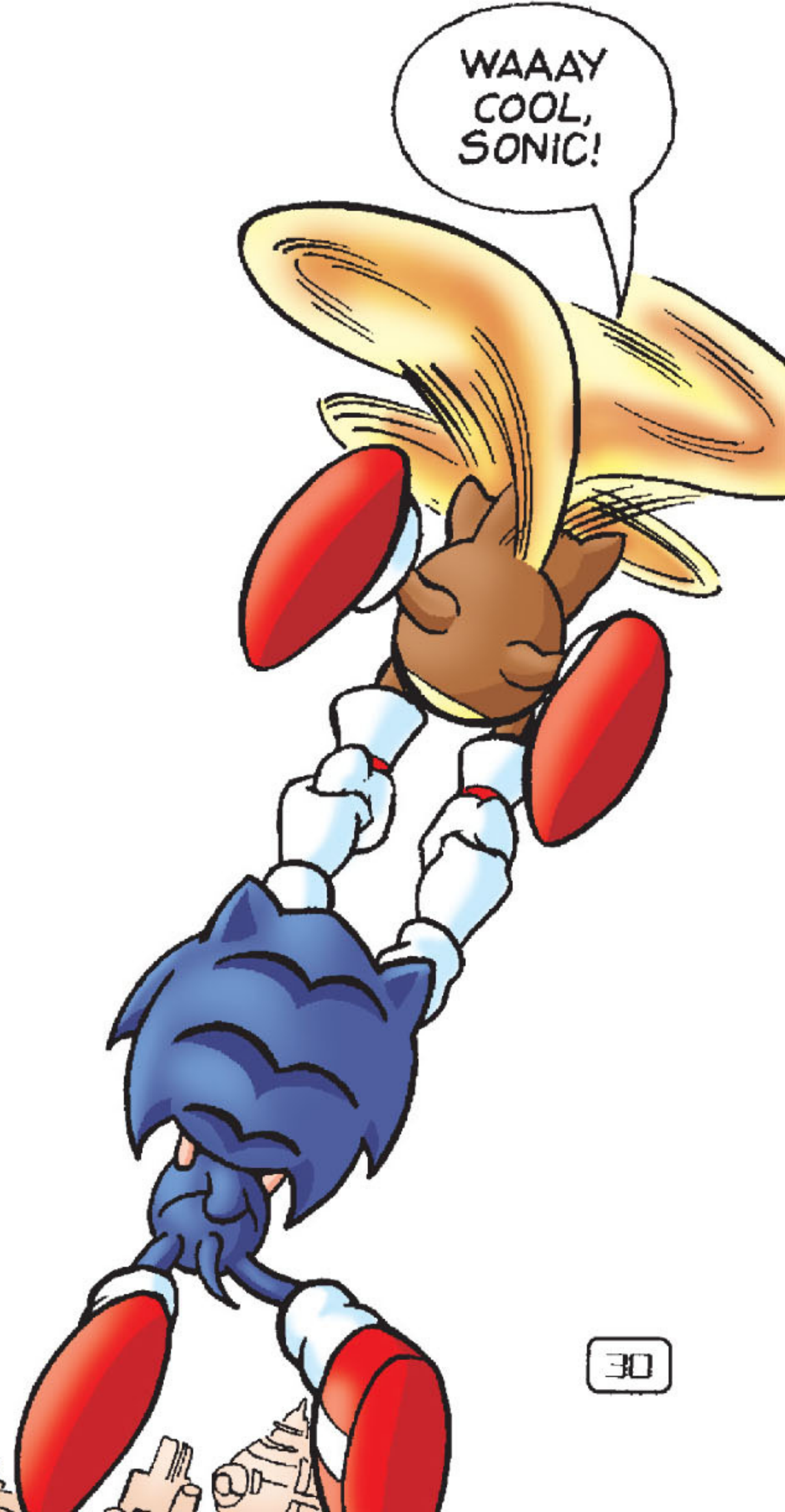
WHATEVER HIS **REASONS**,
UNCLE CHUCK DID WHAT HE
DID BECAUSE HE **LOVES**
YOU!



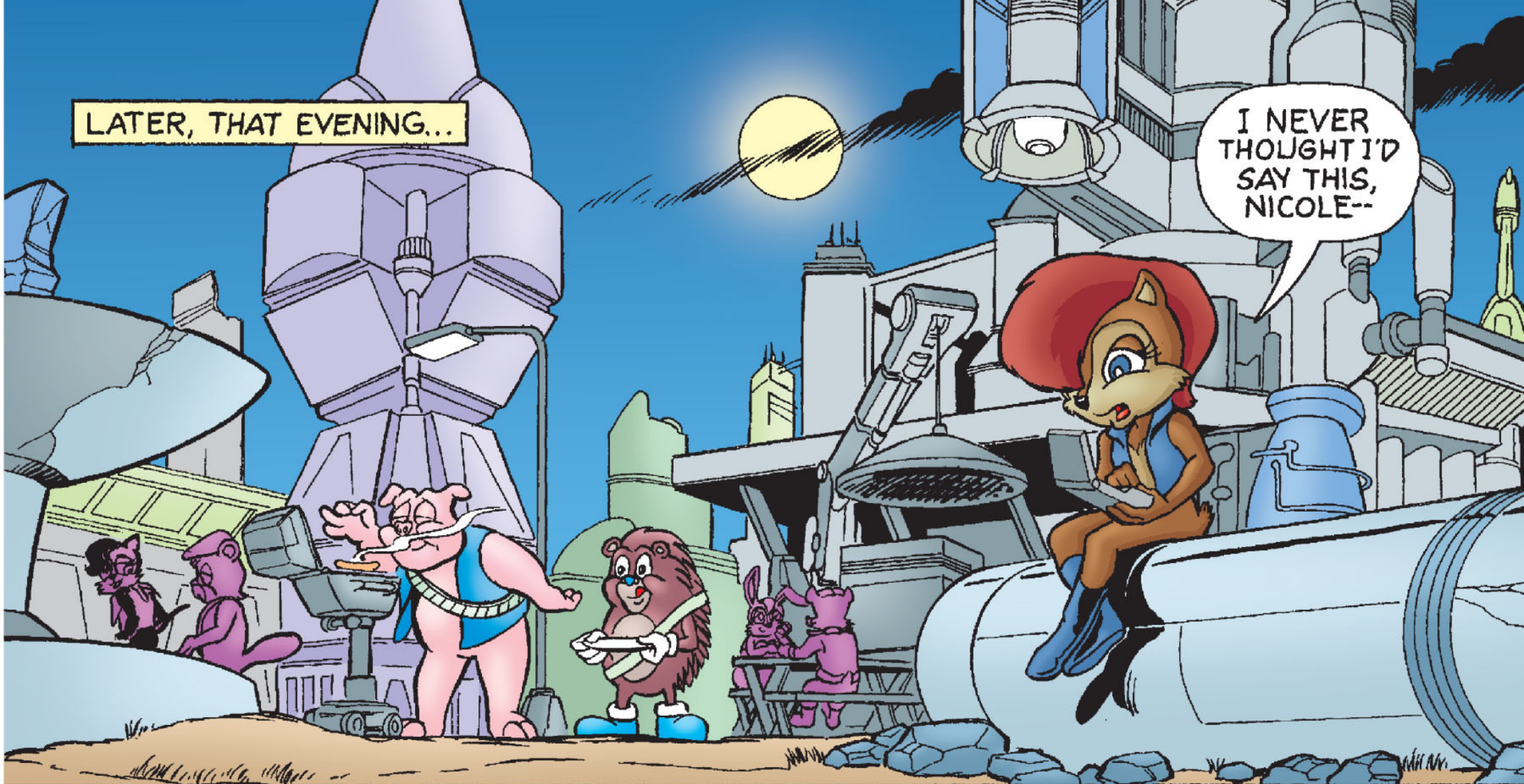
YOU KNOW,
TAILS, YOU CAN
BE SUCH A
BRICK!

I
TRY!

WHAD'DYA
SAY WE HEAD
BACK?



WAAAY
COOL,
SONIC!



LATER, THAT EVENING...

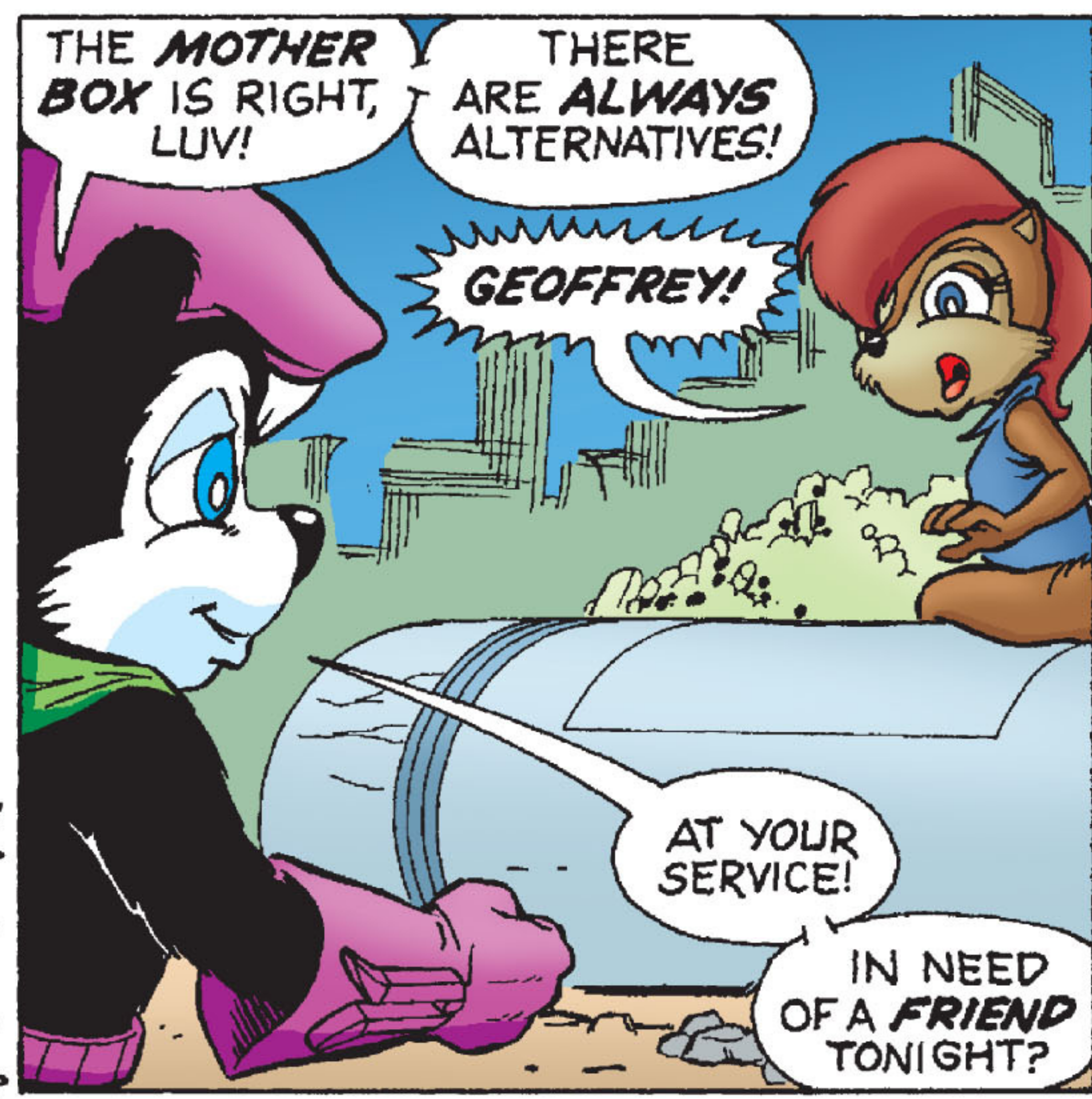
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY THIS, NICOLE---



-- BUT THE SITUATION IS **HOPELESS!**

WE'RE BETTER OFF **REBUILDING** ELSEWHERE THAN TRYING TO **RESTORE** MOBOTROPOLIS TO ITS **FORMER** SELF!

I DON'T THINK YOU'VE FULLY EXPLORED ALL YOUR OPTIONS, SALLY!



THE **MOTHER BOX** IS RIGHT, LUV!

THERE ARE **ALWAYS** ALTERNATIVES!

GEOFFREY!

AT YOUR SERVICE!

IN NEED OF A **FRIEND** TONIGHT?



MORE THAN EVER!

WELL, THEN---

I'M JUST YOUR **MATE!**



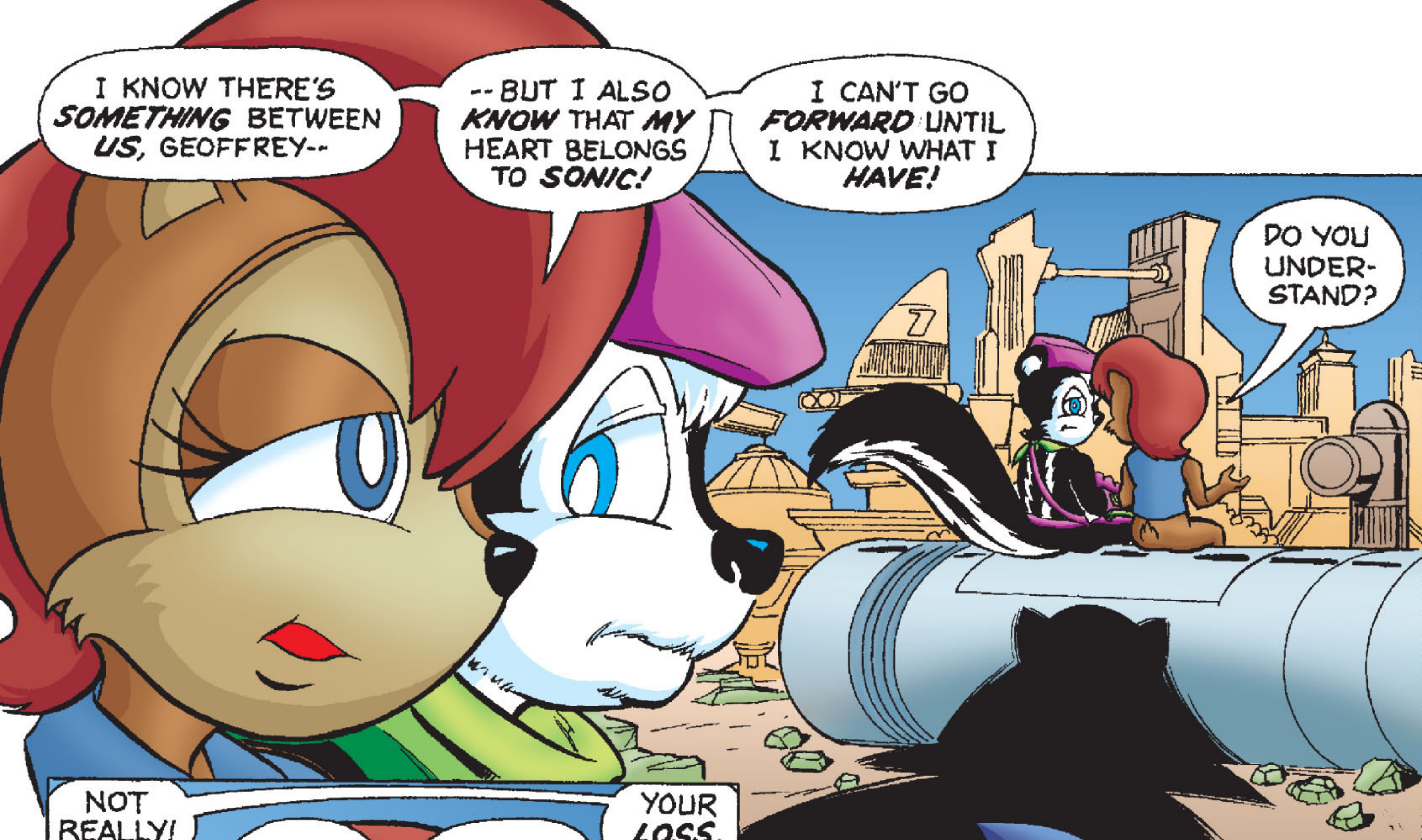
YOU'LL **ALWAYS** BE A **FRIEND** GEOFFREY--

--HOWEVER, IF YOU'RE IMPLYING **BEYOND** THAT--



--I'M AFRAID I **CAN'T** ACCEPT!

MEANING?



I KNOW THERE'S **SOMETHING** BETWEEN **US**, GEOFFREY--

-- BUT I ALSO **KNOW** THAT **MY** HEART BELONGS TO **SONIC**!

I CAN'T GO **FORWARD** UNTIL I KNOW WHAT I **HAVE**!

DO YOU UNDER-
STAND?



NOT REALLY!

THAT'S OKAY!

AS LONG AS I DO!

YOUR **LOSS**, LUV!

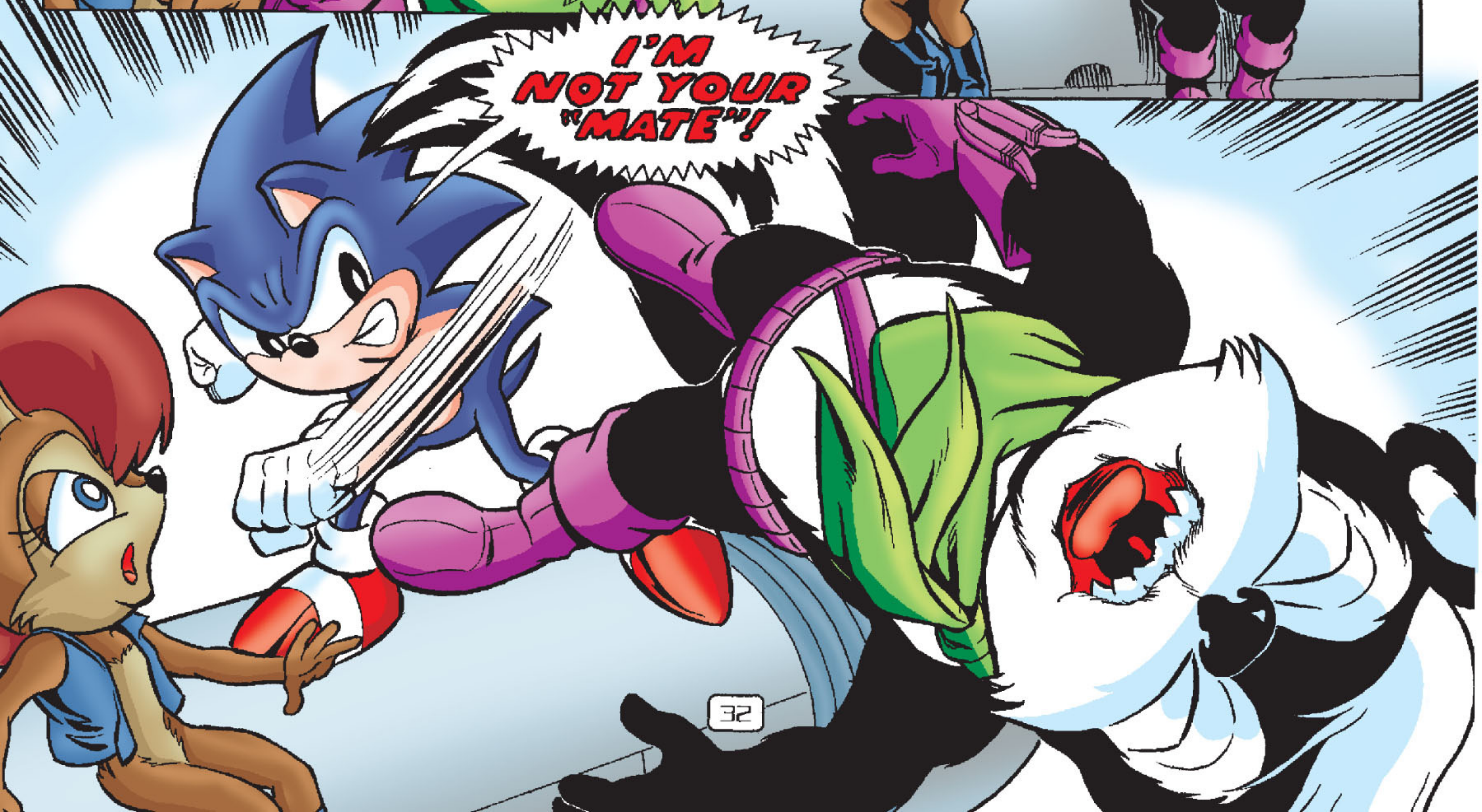


IS IT NOW, "LUV"?

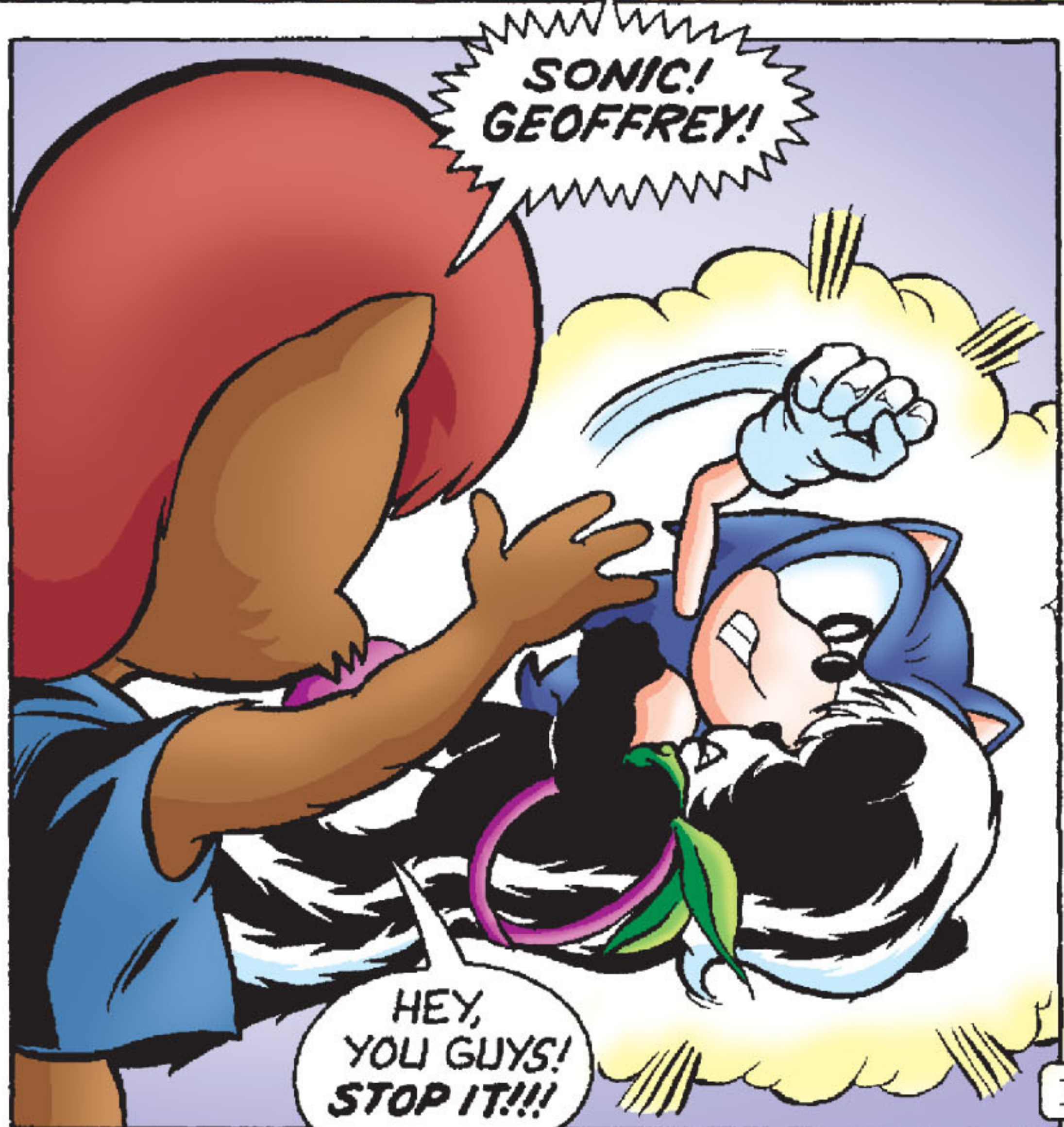
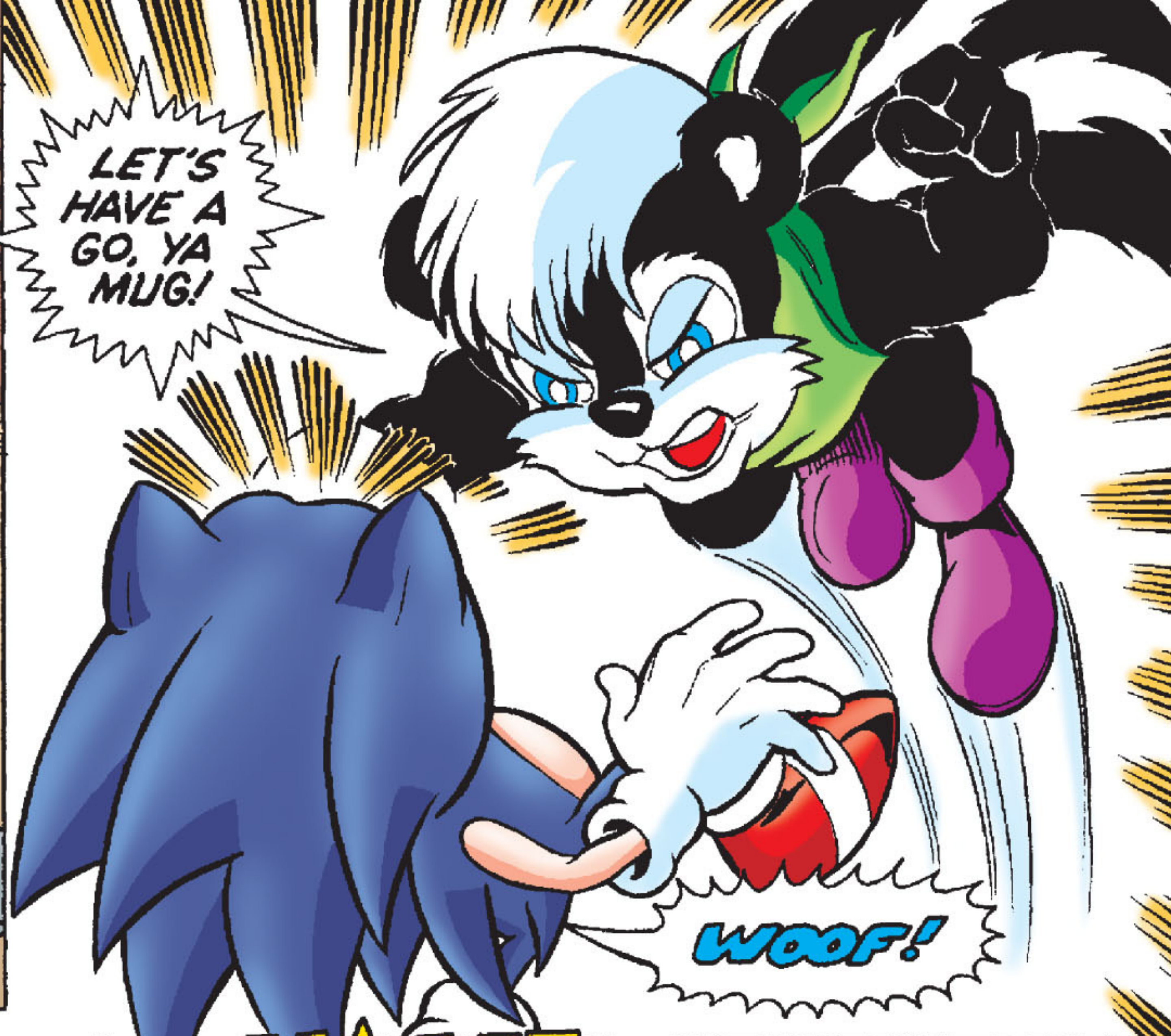
SONIC!

WE WERE JUST **CHATTING** ABOUT YOU, MATE--

ST. JOHN--



I'M NOT YOUR "MATE"!





I BELIEVE I KNOW JUST ZE THING, PRIN-CESS!

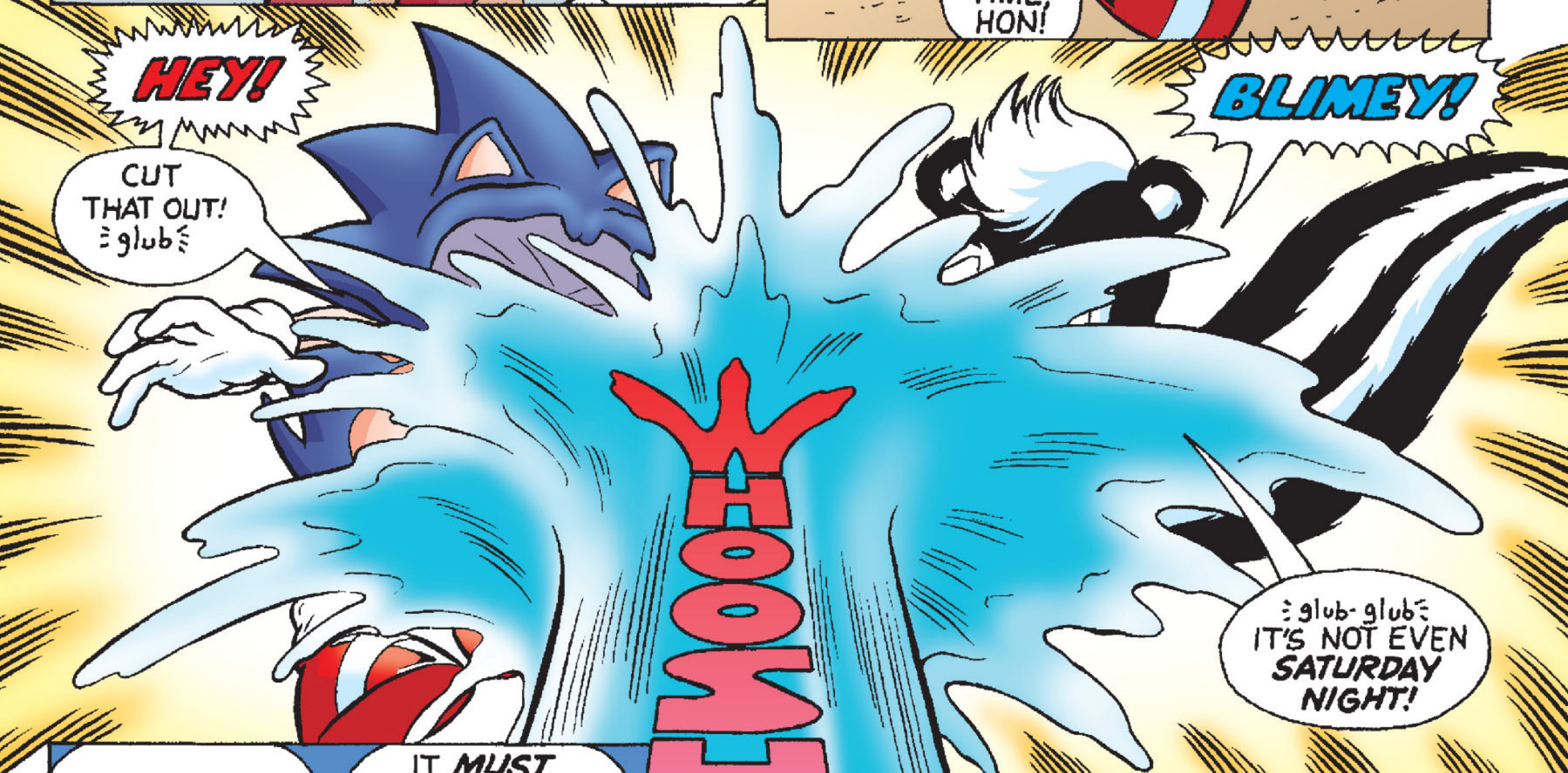
HERE, BUNNIE! TAKE ZIS!

WHATEVER Y'ALL NEED, SU-GAH!



ZIS SHOULD REALLY-- 'OW YOU ZAY-- **DAMPEN** ZER SPIRITS!

BIG TIME, HON!

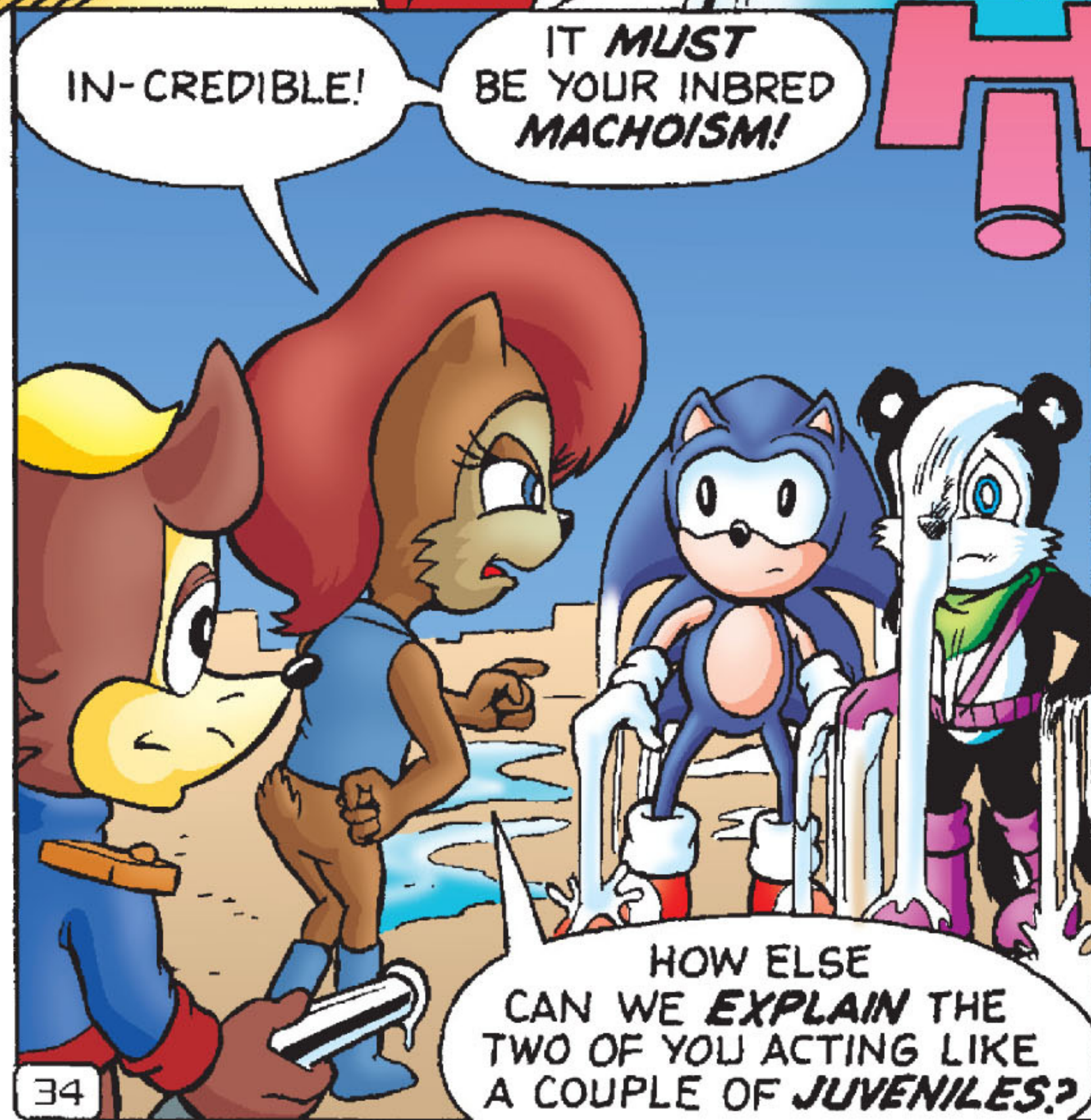


HEY!

CUT THAT OUT!
glub

BLIMEY!

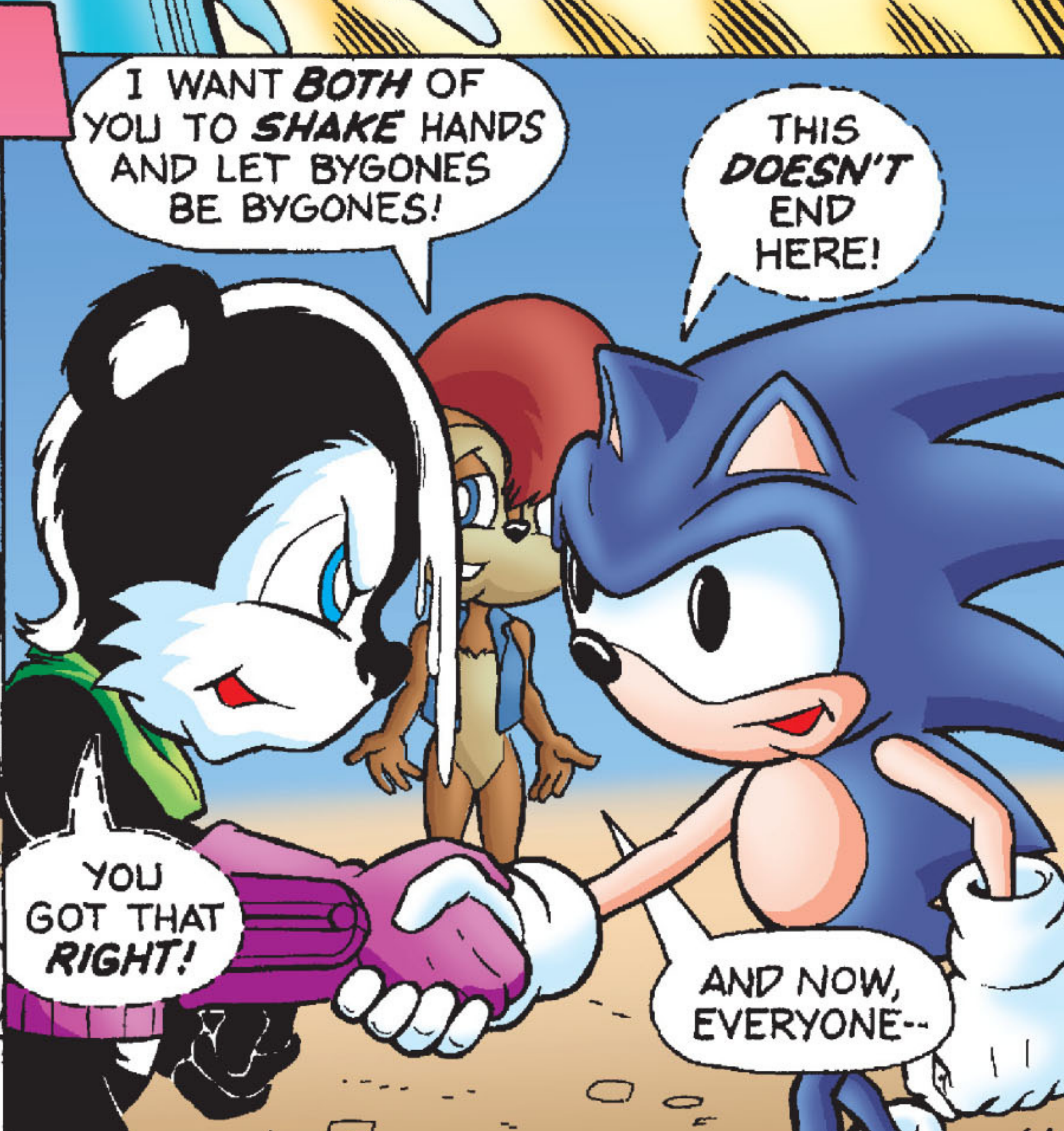
glub-glub
IT'S NOT EVEN **SATURDAY NIGHT!**



IN-CREDIBLE!

IT **MUST** BE YOUR INBRED **MACHOISM!**

HOW ELSE CAN WE **EXPLAIN** THE TWO OF YOU ACTING LIKE A COUPLE OF **JUVENILES?**



I WANT **BOTH** OF YOU TO **SHAKE HANDS** AND LET BYGONES BE BYGONES!

THIS **DOESN'T** END HERE!

YOU GOT THAT **RIGHT!**

AND NOW, **EVERYONE--**

"-- I SAY WE CALL IT A NIGHT."

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF EVERYONE KNEW *YOU* WERE IN *COMMAND*, DADDY!

NONSENSE, SALLY! FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, YOU'RE DOING A *SPLENDID* JOB!

FOR NOW, *NO ONE* MUST FIND OUT, SALLY--

--ESPECIALLY YOUR *FRIENDS*!

BUT *WHY*, DADDY?

I HAVE MY *REASONS*, AND YOU HAVE YOUR *ORDERS*!

NOW, CARRY THEM OUT!

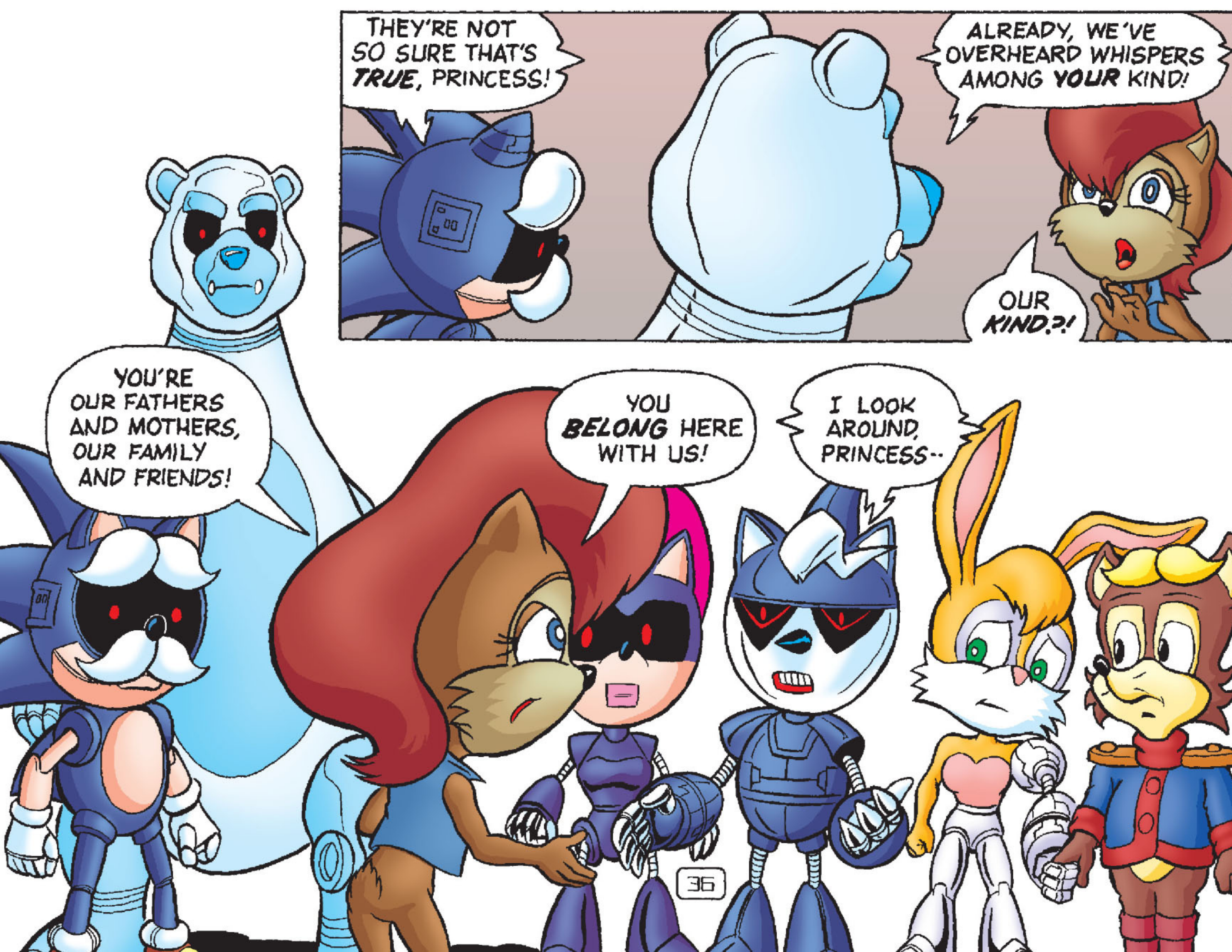
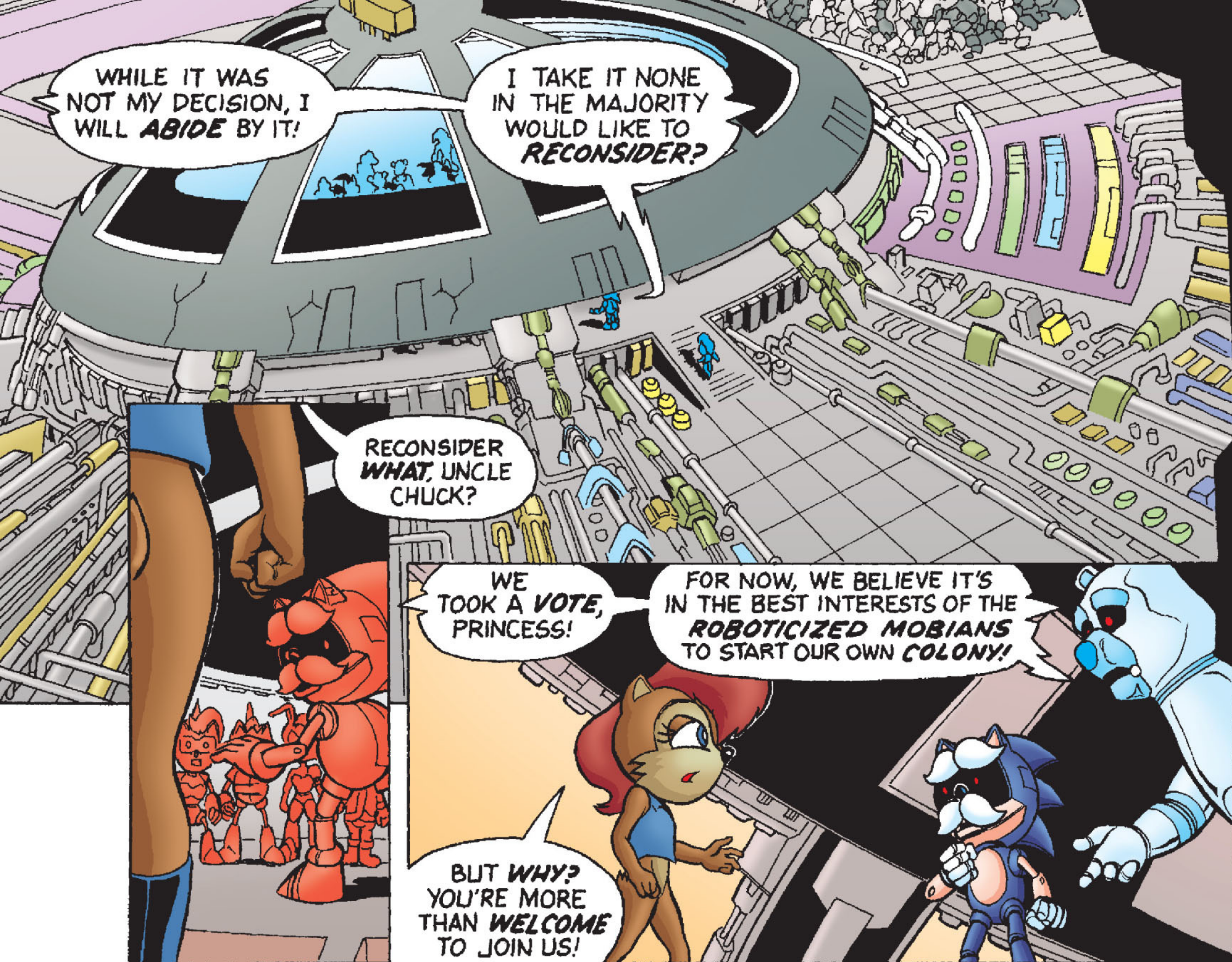
THIS *ISN'T* RIGHT, NICOLE!

NOR IS IT THE *FIRST* TIME YOU'VE KEPT *SECRETS* FROM SONIC AND YOUR FRIENDS!*

SUCH ARE THE *BURDENS* OF *COMMAND*!

ACORN OUT!

* NICOLE IS TALKING ABOUT SALLY'S SECRET OF KNUCKLES AND THE FLOATING ISLAND--EDITOR.



"--AND I WOULD HAVE TO *DISAGREE!*"

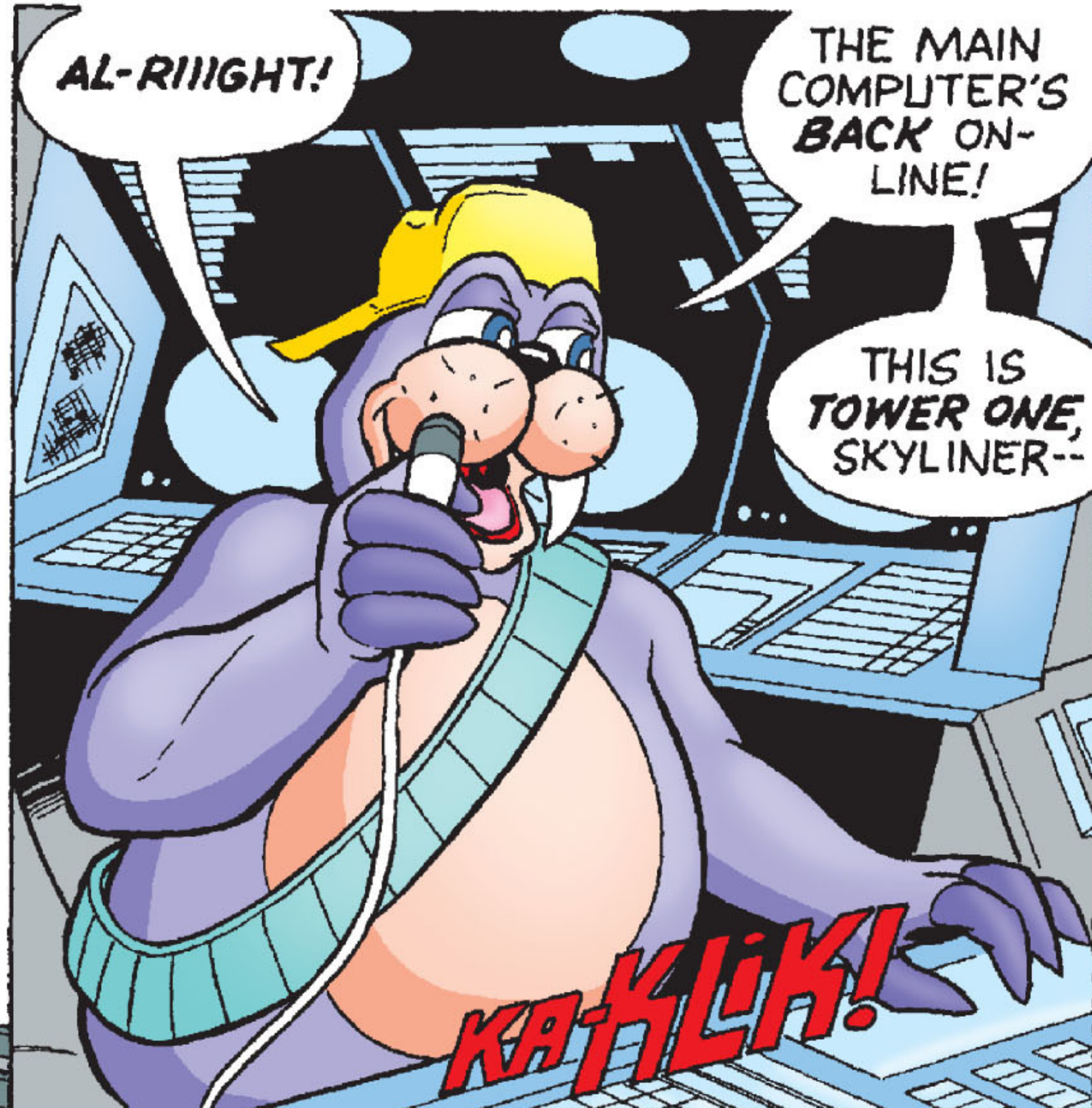


COMPLETING
**CROSS-
CIRCUITING**
TO 'B'--

--AND THAT **SHOULD** DO IT!



AL-RIIIGHT!



THE MAIN
COMPUTER'S
**BACK ON-
LINE!**

THIS IS
TOWER ONE,
SKYLINER--

--YOU
HAVE A GO FOR
TAKE-OFF!

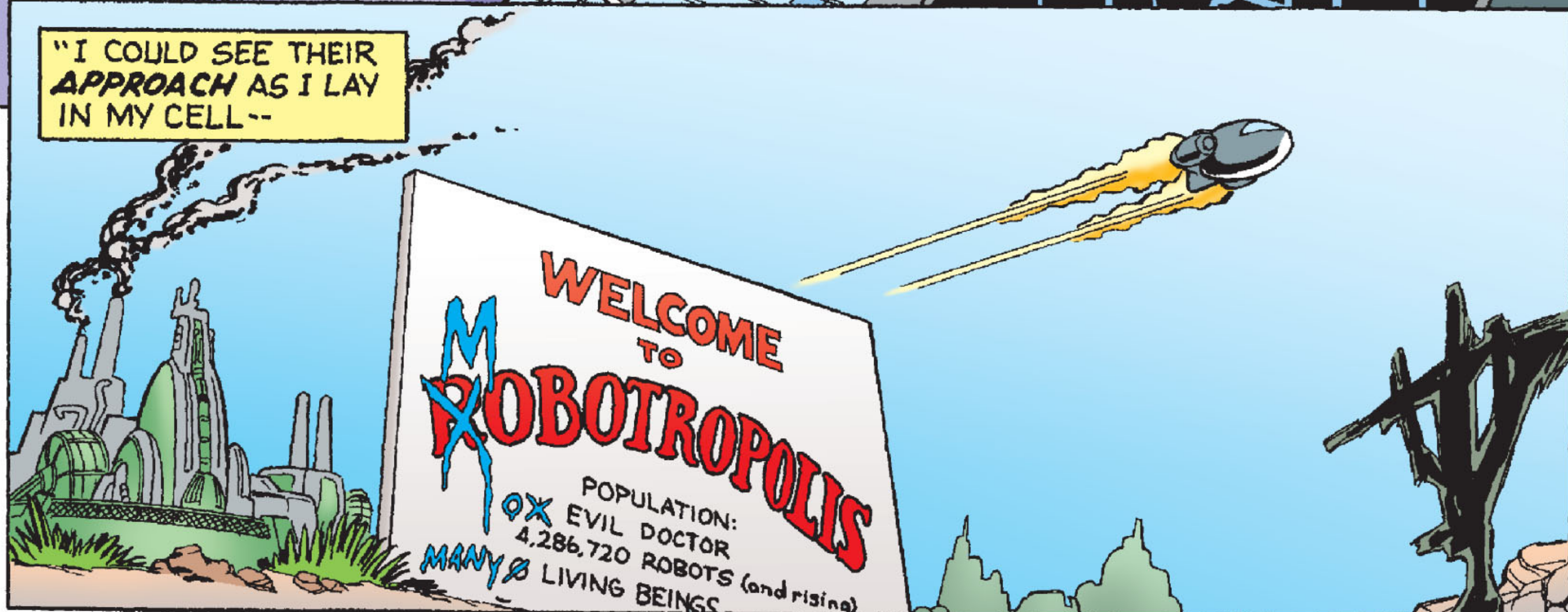
HAVE
A *NICE*
DAY!

ROGER
WILCO, TOWER!
THE **SAME**
TO YOU!

DESTINATION:
THE DEVIL'S GULAG!

VROOOM SHHH!

"I COULD SEE THEIR
APPROACH AS I LAY
IN MY CELL--



"--JUST AS I COULD FEEL THE **ROAR** OF THE ENGINES WHEN THEIR CRAFT LANDED."

"NOW THAT **ROBOTNIK** IS GONE AND I'M STUCK DEEP IN THIS **REOPENED DUNGEON**, THEY THINK THEY'RE **SAFE!**"

"ALL THEY DO NOW IS COME ONCE A WEEK TO CHECK ON US..."

"MAKE CERTAIN WE HAVE **FOOD** AND **WATER**--"

"--AND CONFIRM THAT THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY **ATTEMPTS** TO **LEAVE** OUR LITTLE **UTOPIA!**"

WHEN THE TIME IS **RIGHT--**

"LET THEM BELIEVE WHAT THEY WANT!"

--IS THE TIME I'LL **STRIKE!**

THE STAGE HAS BEEN SET. THE CURTAIN HAS RISEN. NOW THAT YOU HAVE ENTERED **SONIC'S BRAVE NEW WORLD**, CONTINUE THE JOURNEY IN **SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 14**, AS THINGS GET WILDER STILL!

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES
NO.4 US \$2.25
CAN \$2.50

48
PAGE
SPECIAL

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

RETURN OF THE KING

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

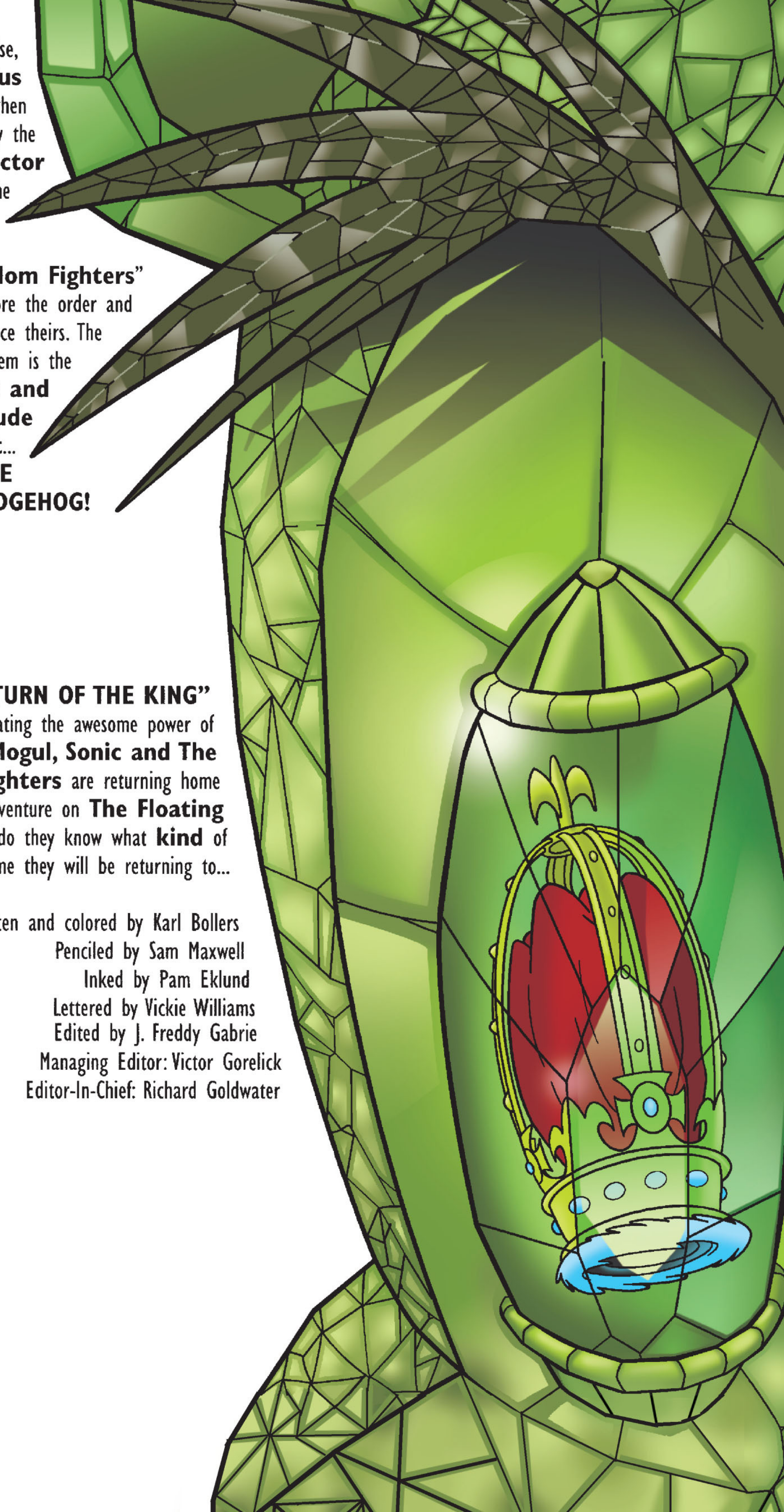


Once a virtual paradise,
the planet **Mobius**
was enslaved when
conquered by the
techno-evil of **Doctor**
Robotnik. In the
aftermath, a
courageous
group of “Freedom Fighters”
has risen to restore the order and
beauty that was once theirs. The
greatest among them is the
fastest and
way-coolest dude
on two feet...
SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG!

“THE RETURN OF THE KING”

After defeating the awesome power of
Mammoth Mogul, **Sonic and The**
Freedom Fighters are returning home
from their adventure on **The Floating**
Island. Little do they know what **kind** of
home they will be returning to...

Written and colored by Karl Bollers
Penciled by Sam Maxwell
Inked by Pam Eklund
Lettered by Vickie Williams
Edited by J. Freddy Gabrie
Managing Editor: Victor Gorelick
Editor-In-Chief: Richard Goldwater



DUSK.

BUT IT ISN'T THE SETTING SUN'S
BRILLIANCE THAT CATCHES THE ATTENTION
OF MOBOTROPOLIS' ANTHROPOMORPHIC
CITIZENRY THIS TWILIGHT.

INSTEAD, IT IS THE ROAR
OF TURBINE ENGINES--

-- ACCOMPANIED BY THE MAJESTIC
SIGHT OF THE ROYAL SKYSHIP
THAT GIVES THEM ALL PAUSE AS IT
ARCS TOWARDS CASTLE ACORN.

-- THE COOL RUSH
OF WIND--

AND WHAT DOES
THIS ALL MEAN?

SIMPLY PUT, THE HEROES
HAVE COME HOME!*

SONIC IN The Return of the KING PART 1

AND JOINING HIM ARE PRINCESS
SALLY ACORN, GEOFFREY ST.
JOHN, ANTOINE D'COULETTE,
BUNNIE RABBIT, ROTOR, AND
TAILS...

...ALL OF THEM FORMER
REBELS IN THE STRUGGLE
AGAINST THE DIABOLICAL
DOCTOR ROBOTNIK.

BUT NOW, THAT STRUGGLE
HAS ENDED AND THE
GOOD GUYS HAVE WON...

...OR HAVE THEY?

AH! WELCOME
BACK, FREEDOM
FIGHTERS! IS
THIS A NEW
AIRSHIP?

DAD!
WHY AREN'T
YOU IN BED?
YOU'RE ILL!

I'M CERTAIN IT MUST HAVE APPEARED SO WHEN YOU LEFT FOR THE FLOATING ISLE, SWEETHEART, BUT I'M FULLY RECOVERED NOW.

ALL OF THAT TALK ABOUT DISMANTLING THE ROBBIANS* WAS LITTER POPPYCOCK!**

* ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS.
** CHECK OUT THE MADNESS IN SONIC ARCHIVES 15! - ED.

WITH MY SANITY ONCE MORE INTACT, IT IS MY WHOLEHEARTED INTENT TO REBUILD OUR KINGDOM SO THAT WE MAY ALL LIVE LIVES OF HARMONY.

ARE YOU SPOT ON ABOUT THIS, MY LIEGE?

EH?

WHAT GEOFFREY EEZ ASKING, SIRE, EEZ... CAN WE TRULY TRUST ZEE ROBBIANS?

YEAH, I MEAN LET'S NOT FORGET HOW THOSE CREEPS WERE PRACTICALLY ROBOTNIK'S FAN CLUB!

I'M WITH THE HEDGEHOG! THE PROGRAMMING THAT ROBOTNIK INSTALLED IN THOSE BLOKES MAY STILL BE FUNCTIONAL!

THEY COULD BE JUST MAKIN' US THINK EVERYTHING'S COOL WHILE THEY WAIT TO SPRING A SURPRISE ATTACK!

...OR EVEN WORSE!

WHAT?! YOU ALL CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

SONIC! YOUR UNCLE CHUCK WAS ROBOTICIZED, WASN'T HE?

SURE! CAN I BELIEVE A WORD HE SAYS? NO WAY! HE DIDN'T EVEN TELL ME THAT MY PARENTS WERE REALLY ALIVE AND UNDER BUTTNIK'S CONTROL ALL THOSE YEARS (NOT THAT I CAN REALLY TRUST THEM, EITHER...)!

THERE'S SOMETHING TO WHAT HE'S SAYING, DAD...

...REMEMBER, THEY'VE EVEN PETITIONED FOR THEIR OWN ROBBIAN COLONY IN WHAT REMAINS OF KNOTHOLE VILLAGE. A PETITION YOU ORIGINALLY DENIED*, THEY'LL PROBABLY EVEN STAGE A REBEL--

*ARCHIVES 15 AGAIN!
--EDITOR.

ENOUGH!

--LION?



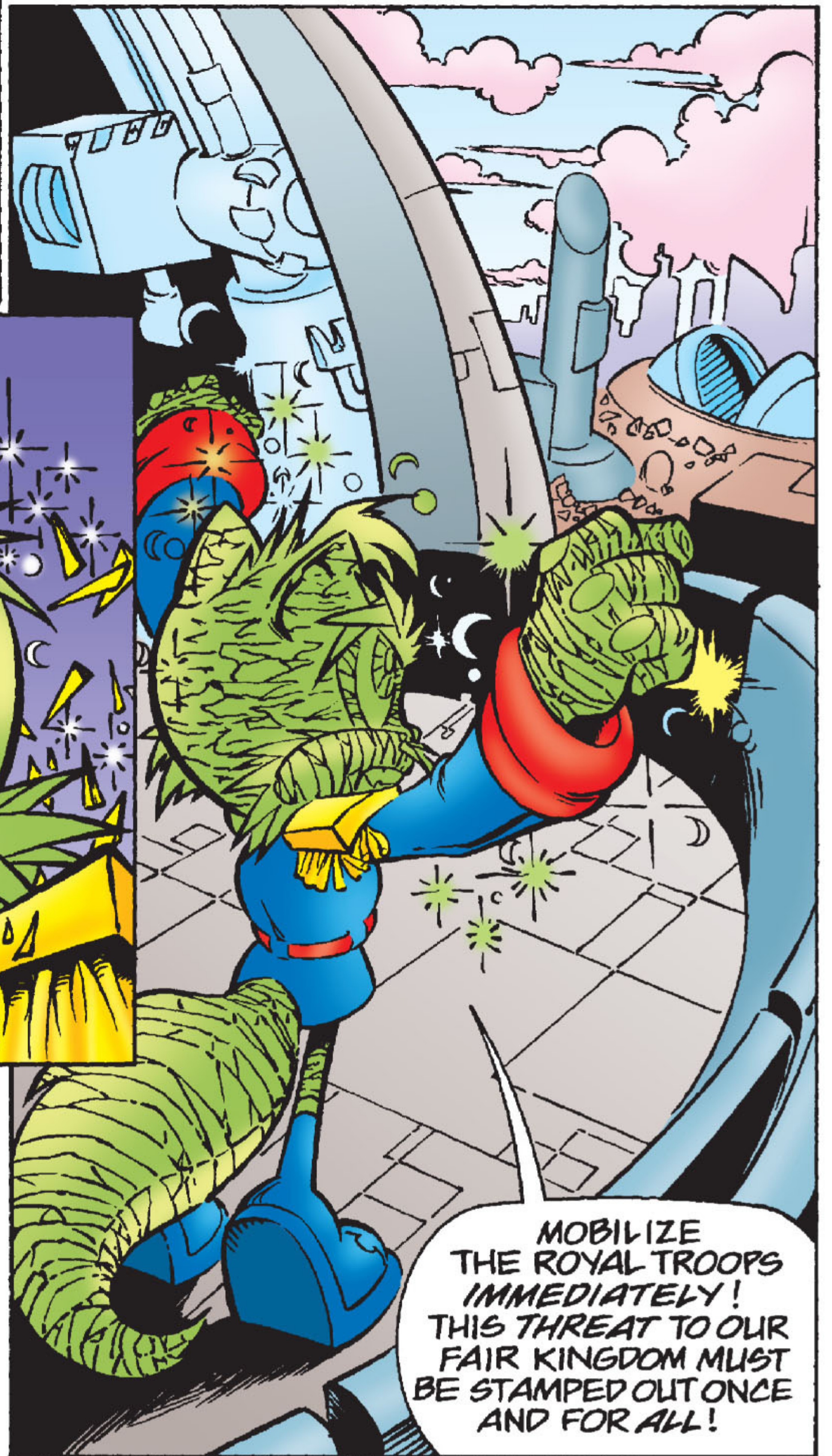
BEHOLD!
THE MONARCH,
HIS RAGE,
FUELED BY
THE HATEFUL
WORDS OF
HIS DAUGHTER
AND HER
FRIENDS, SETS
OFF ON A
TIRADE
AGAINST THE
ROBIANS!

IN THE SCANT
WEEKS SINCE
HIS ESCAPE
FROM THE
ZONE OF
SILENCE,
KING ACORN
HAS BATTLED
WITH THE
CRYSTAL-
LIZATION
EFFECT (A
BY-PRODUCT OF
THE ZONE)
THAT HAS
RAVAGED HIS
WEAKENED
BODY.

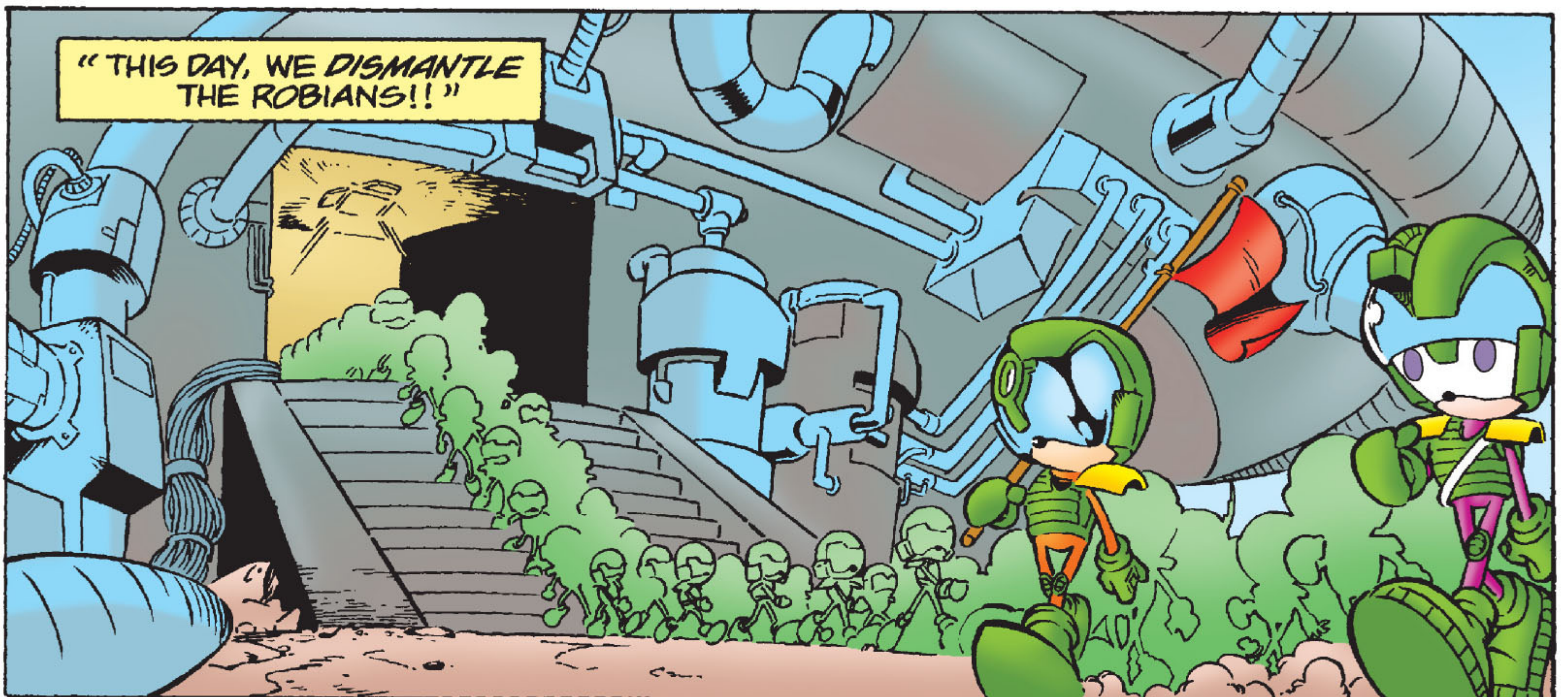


NOW, A CHANGE TRANSPIRES IN
THE RULER... AND SO GREAT IS HIS
ANGER, HE DOES NOT EVEN TAKE
NOTE AS THE CRYSTAL CRAWLS
ACROSS HIS FACE REPLACING ITS
SOFT FLESH COMPLETELY.

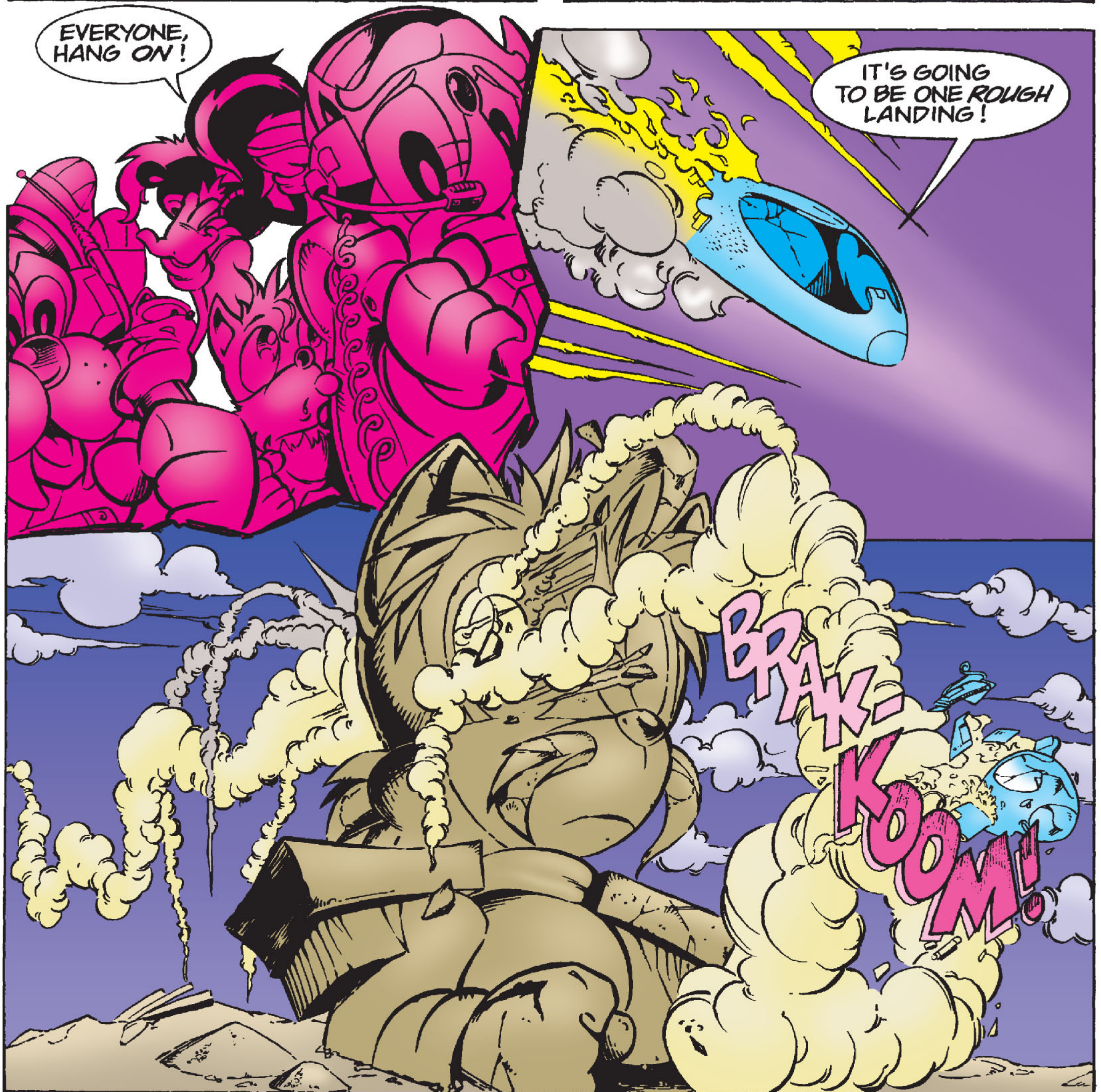
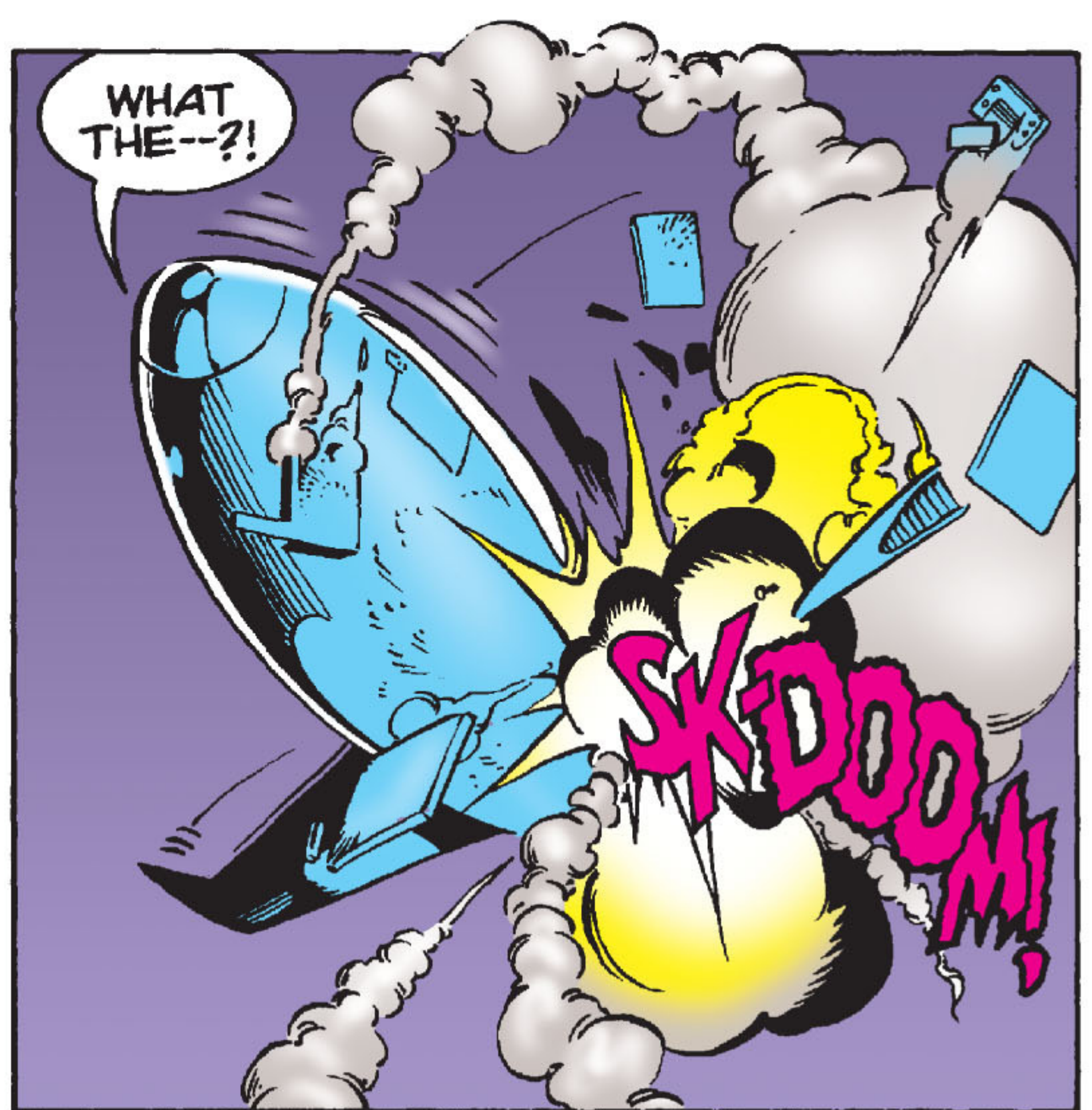
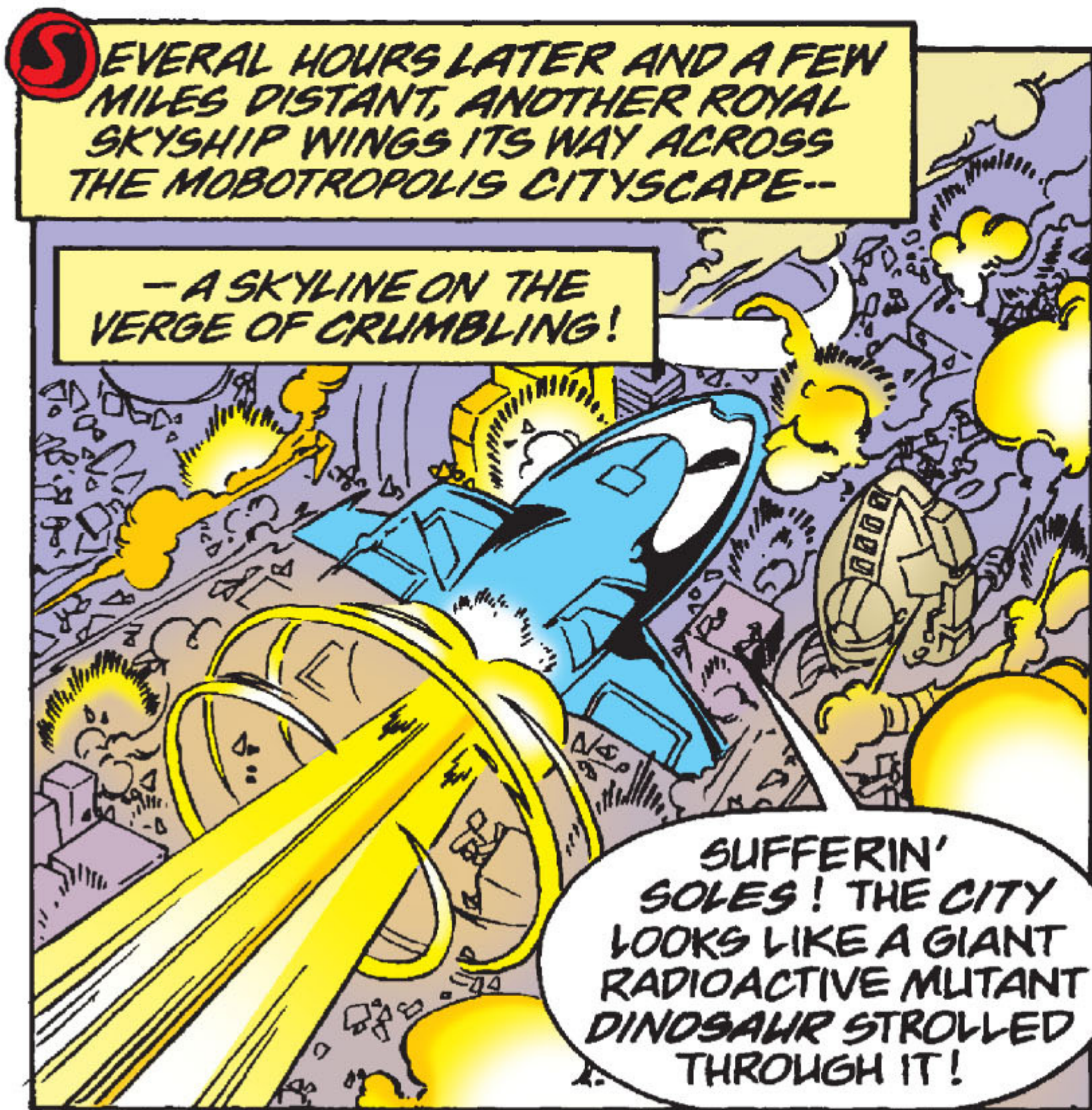
NEVER MIND! FOR THE
KING HAS FAR
GREATER CONCERNS!



MOBILIZE
THE ROYAL TROOPS
IMMEDIATELY!
THIS THREAT TO OUR
FAIR KINGDOM MUST
BE STAMPED OUT ONCE
AND FOR ALL!



"THIS DAY, WE DISMANTLE
THE ROBIANS!!"



SONIC IN
The Return of the
KING
PART 2

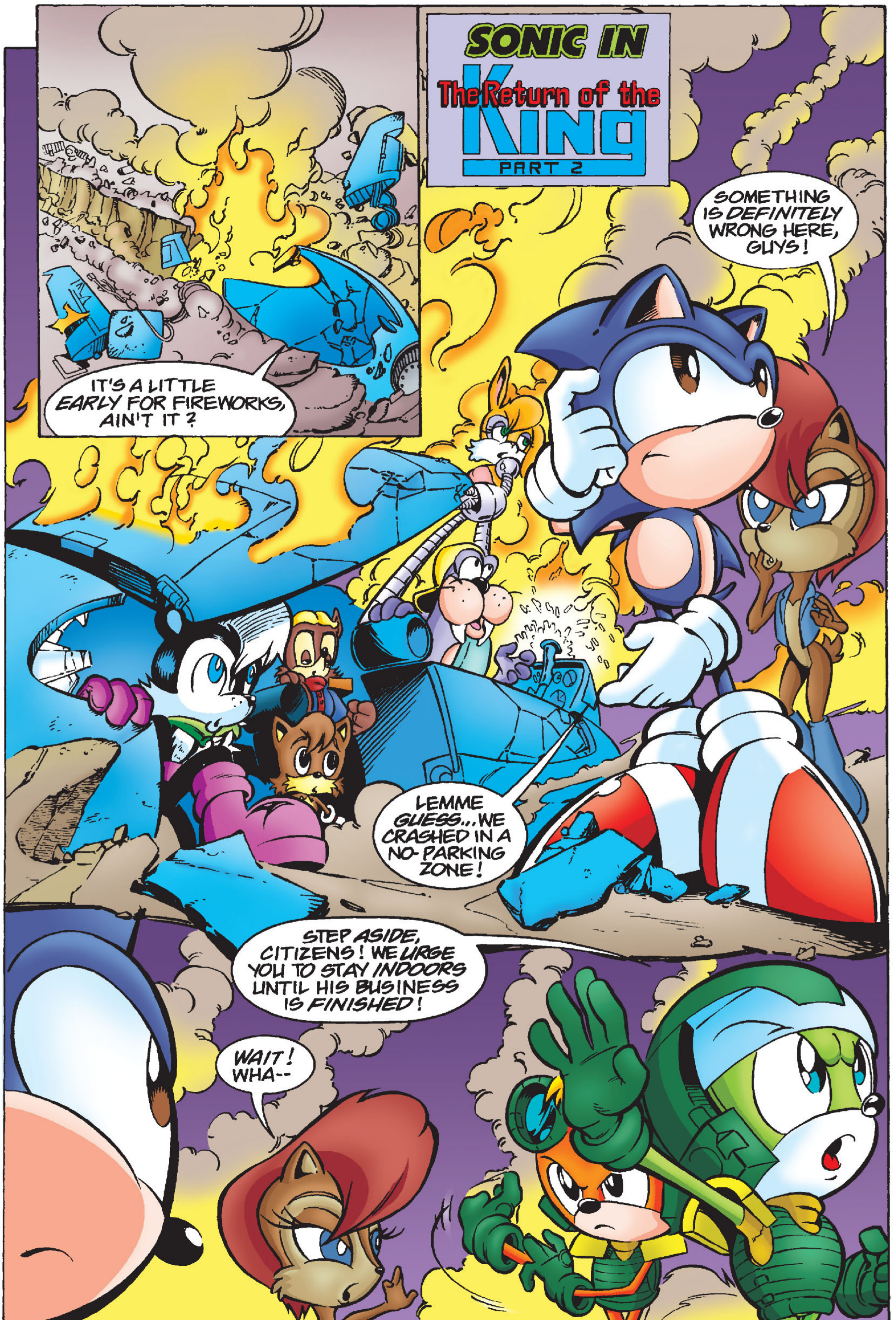
SOMETHING
IS DEFINITELY
WRONG HERE,
GUYS!

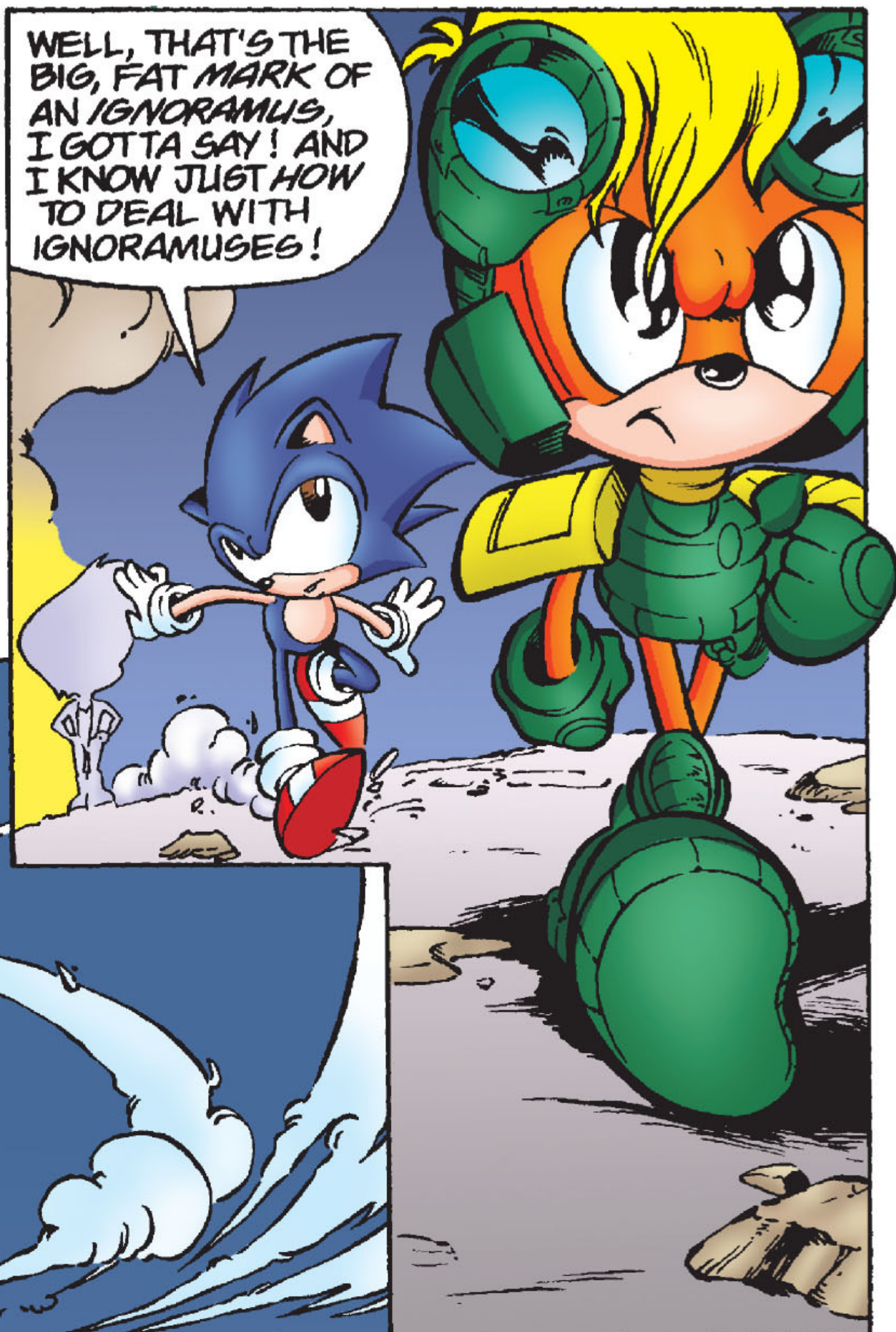
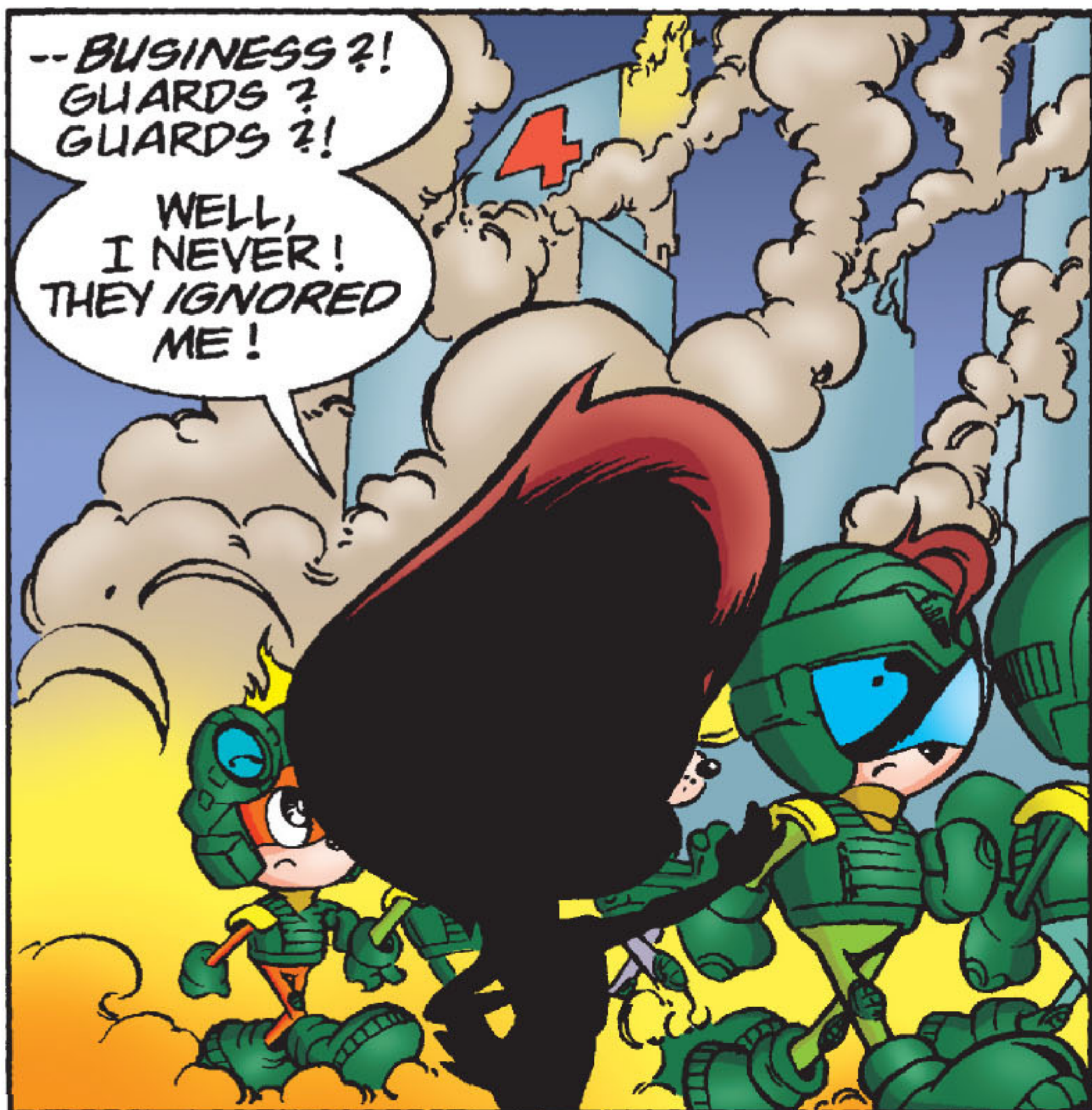
IT'S A LITTLE
EARLY FOR FIREWORKS,
AIN'T IT ?

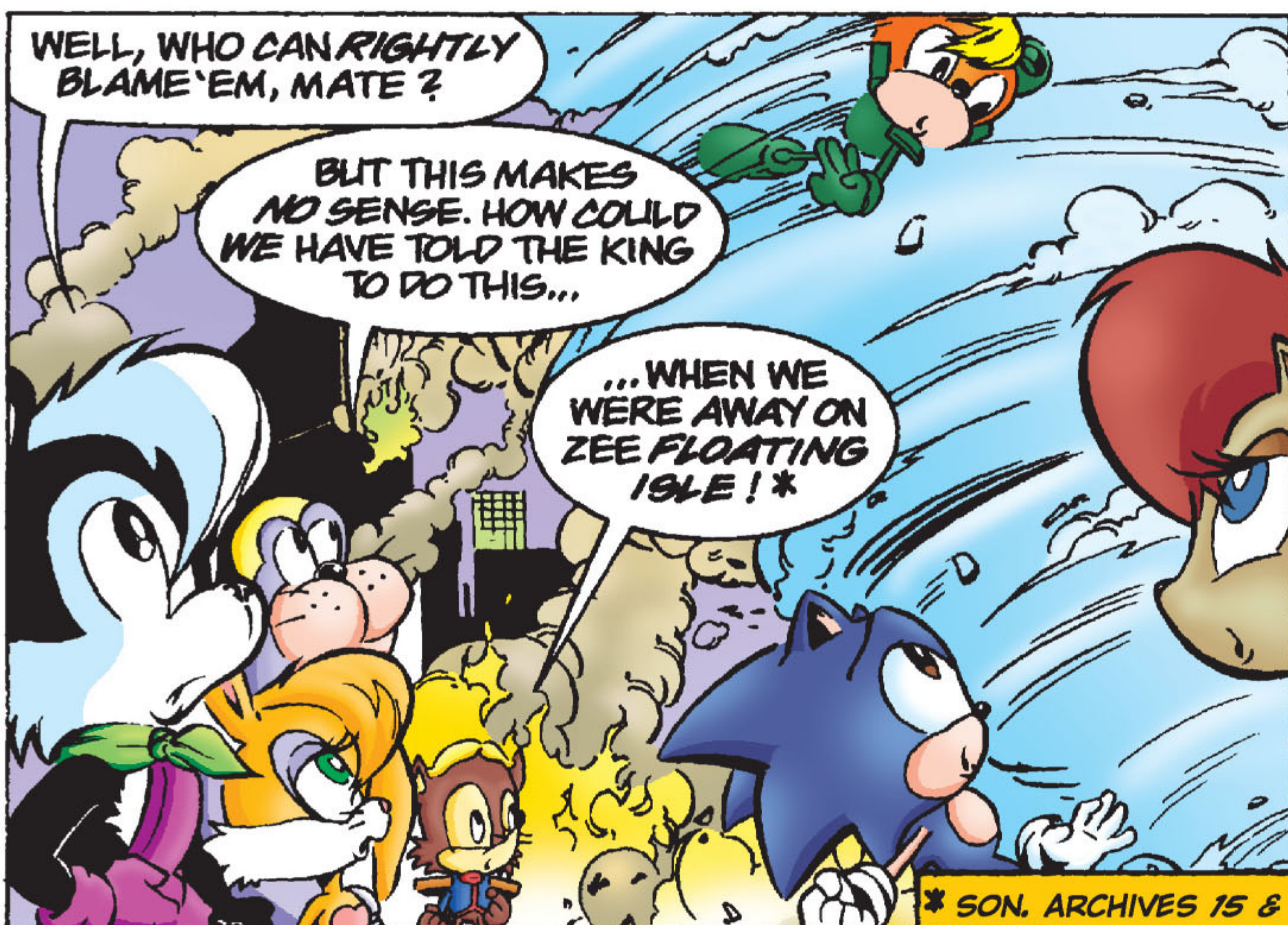
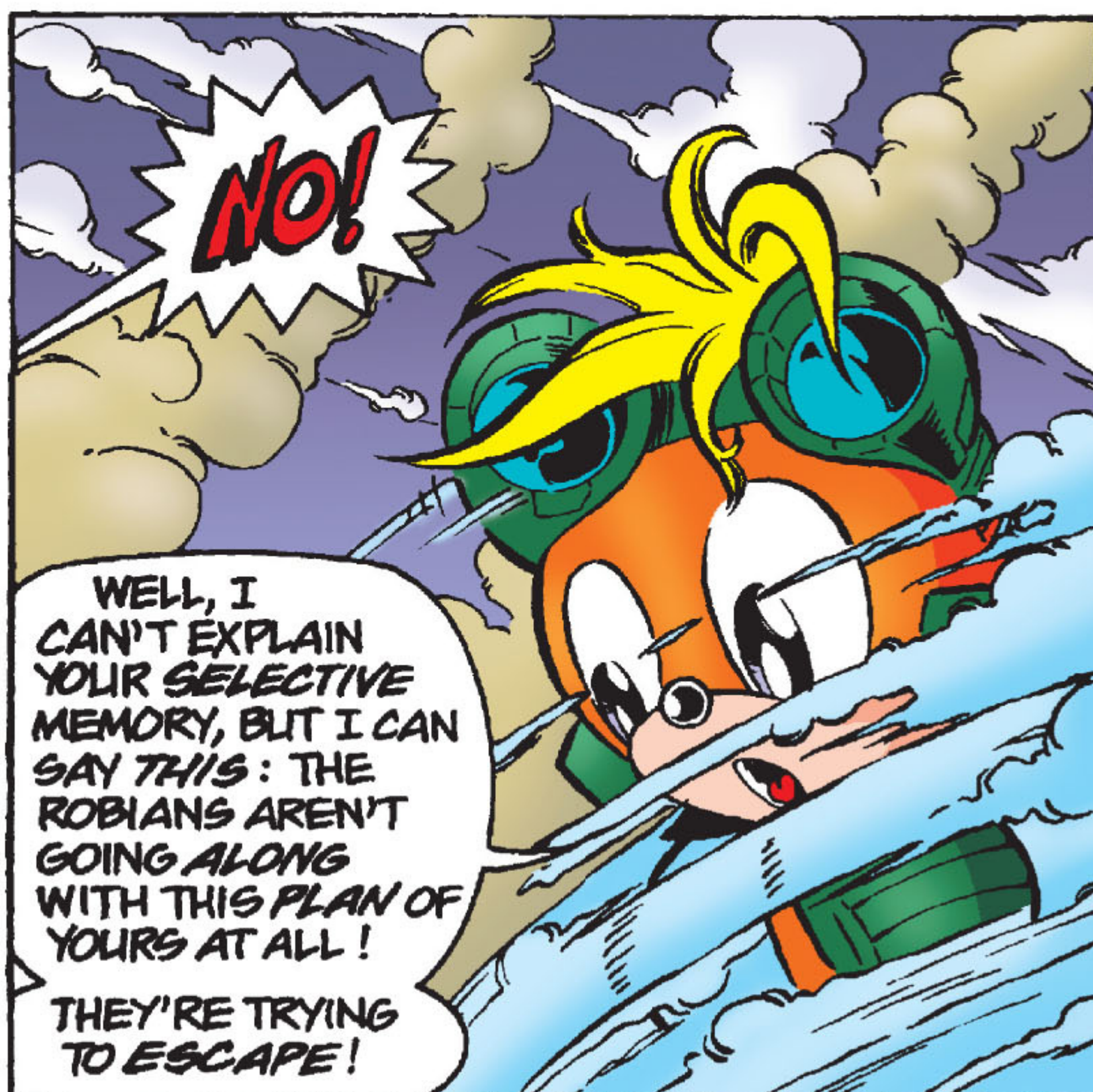
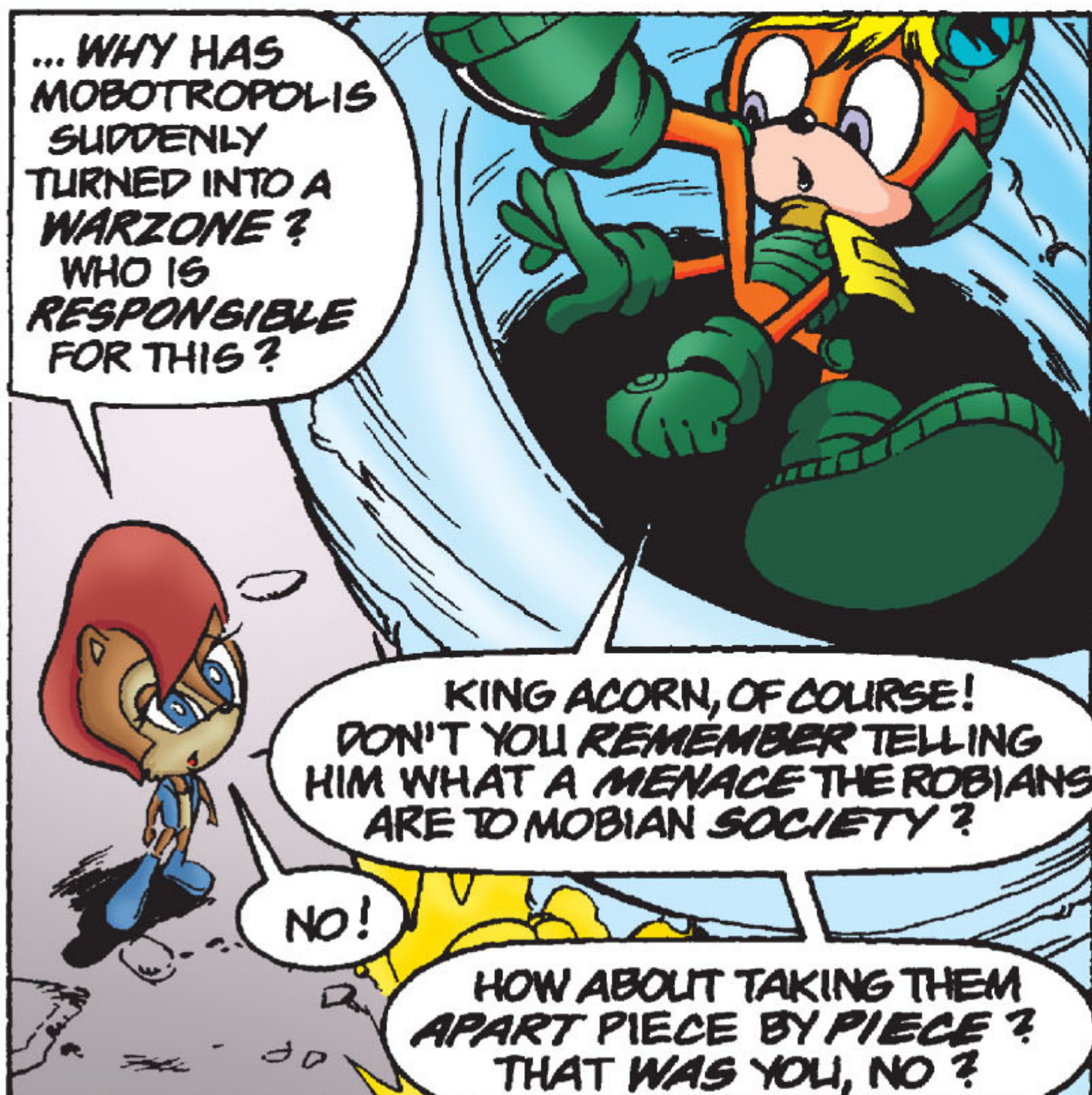
LEMME
GUESS...WE
CRASHED IN A
NO-PARKING
ZONE!

STEP ASIDE,
CITIZENS! WE URGE
YOU TO STAY INDOORS
UNTIL HIS BUSINESS
IS FINISHED!

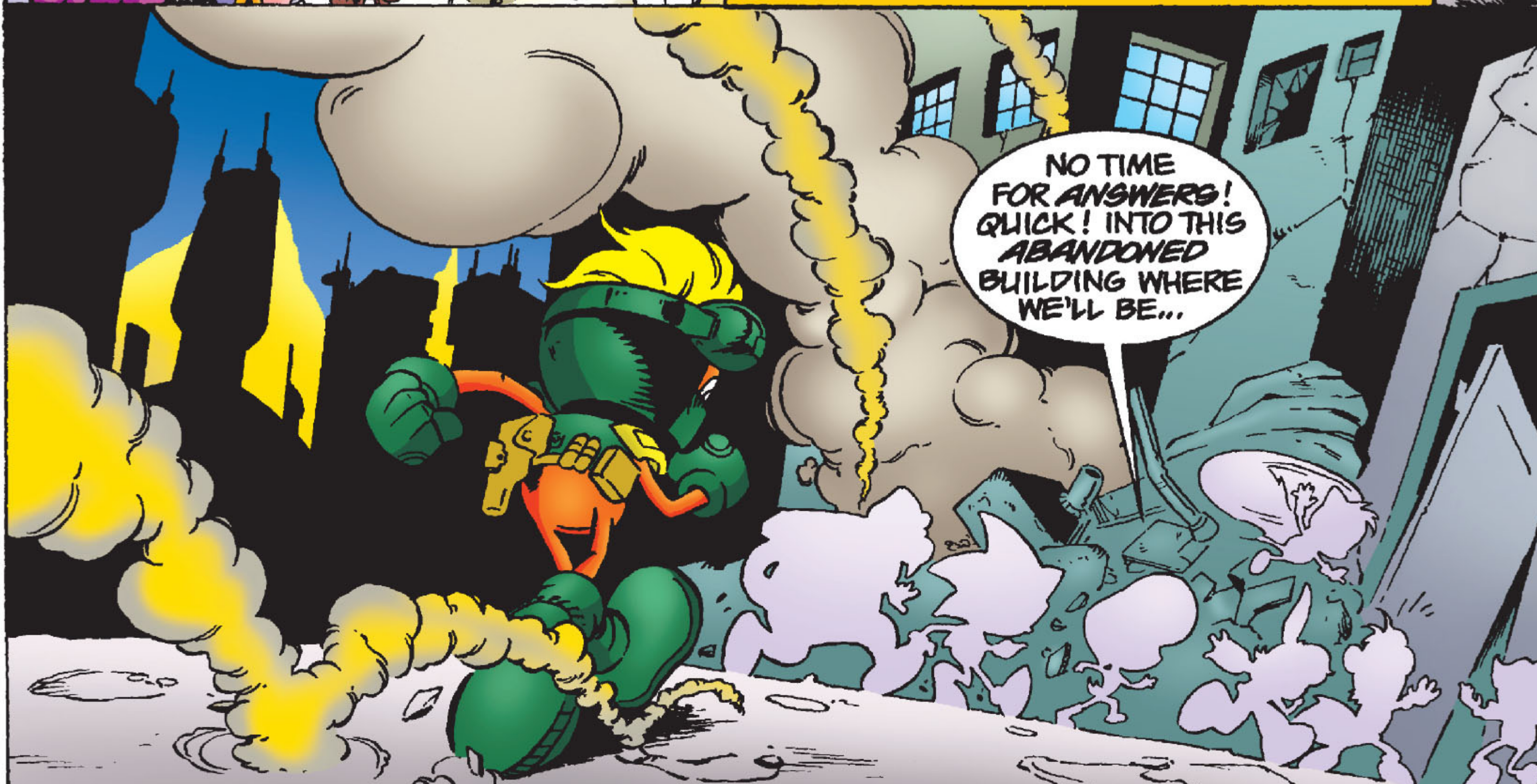
WAIT!
WHA--







* SON. ARCHIVES 15 & THE KNUCKLES ARCHIVES! - ED.



"... SAFE!"

SKRITCH!

SKRITCH!
SKRITCH!

FWOOSH!

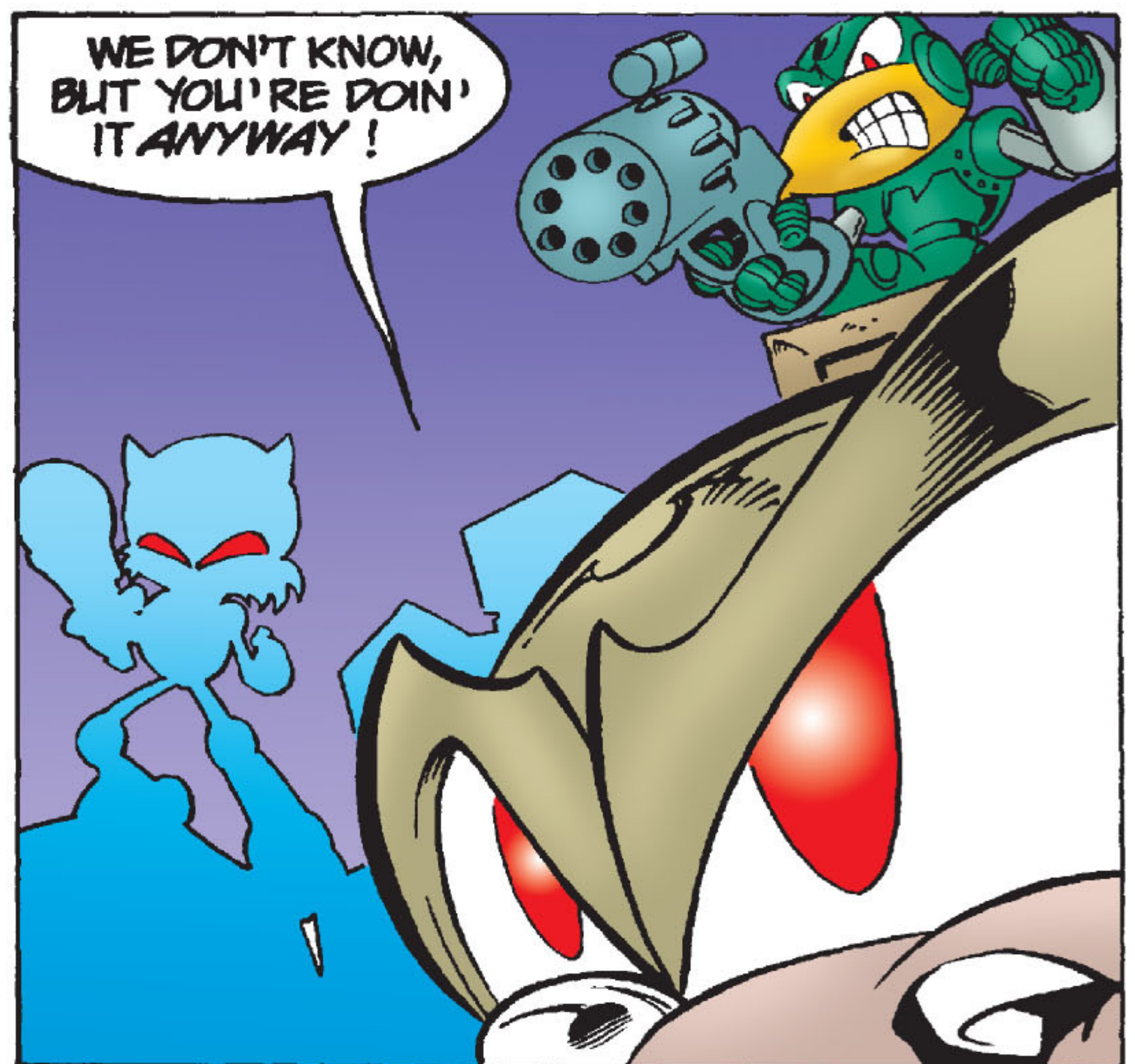
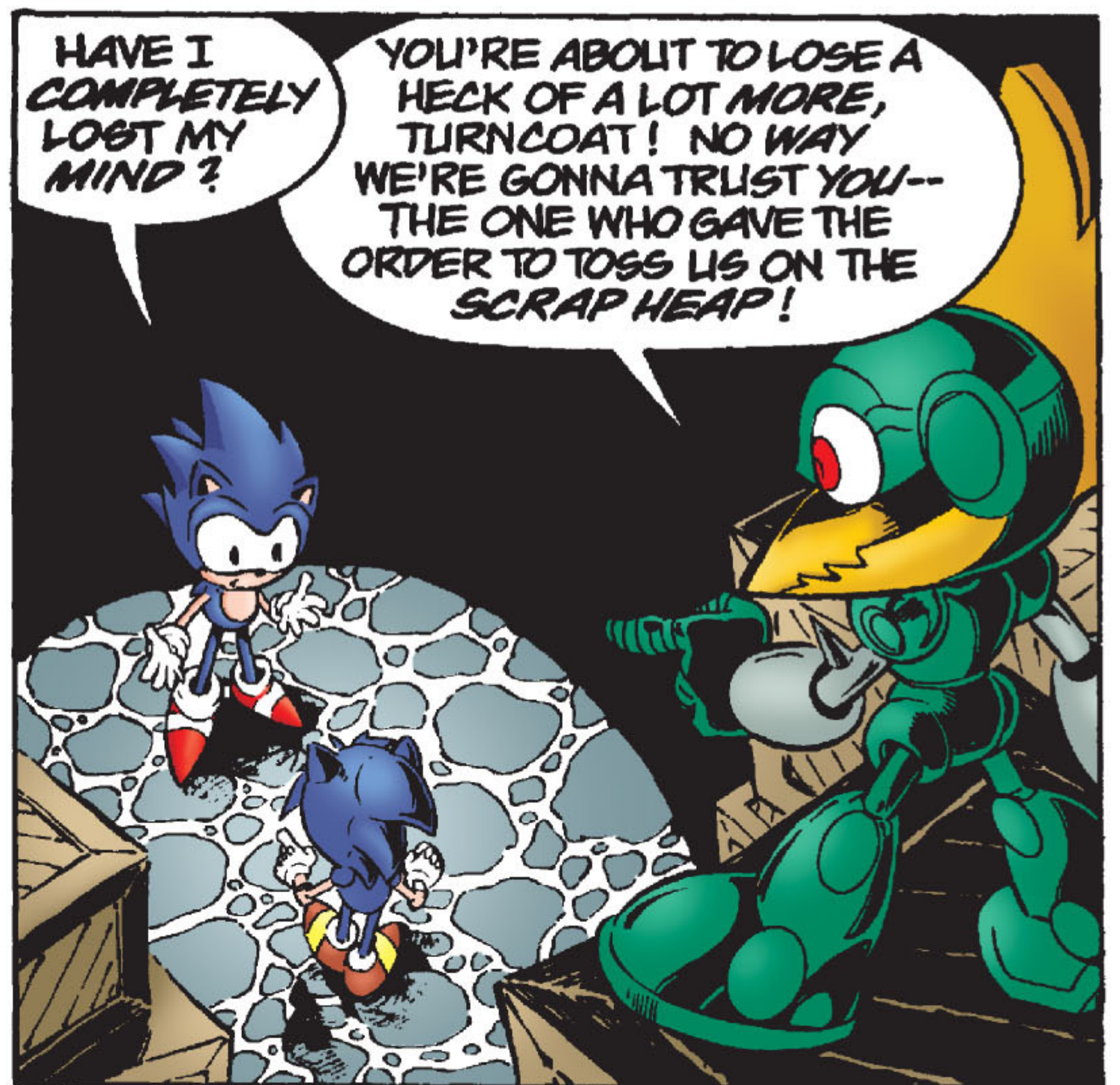
SONIC IN The Return of the KING PART 3

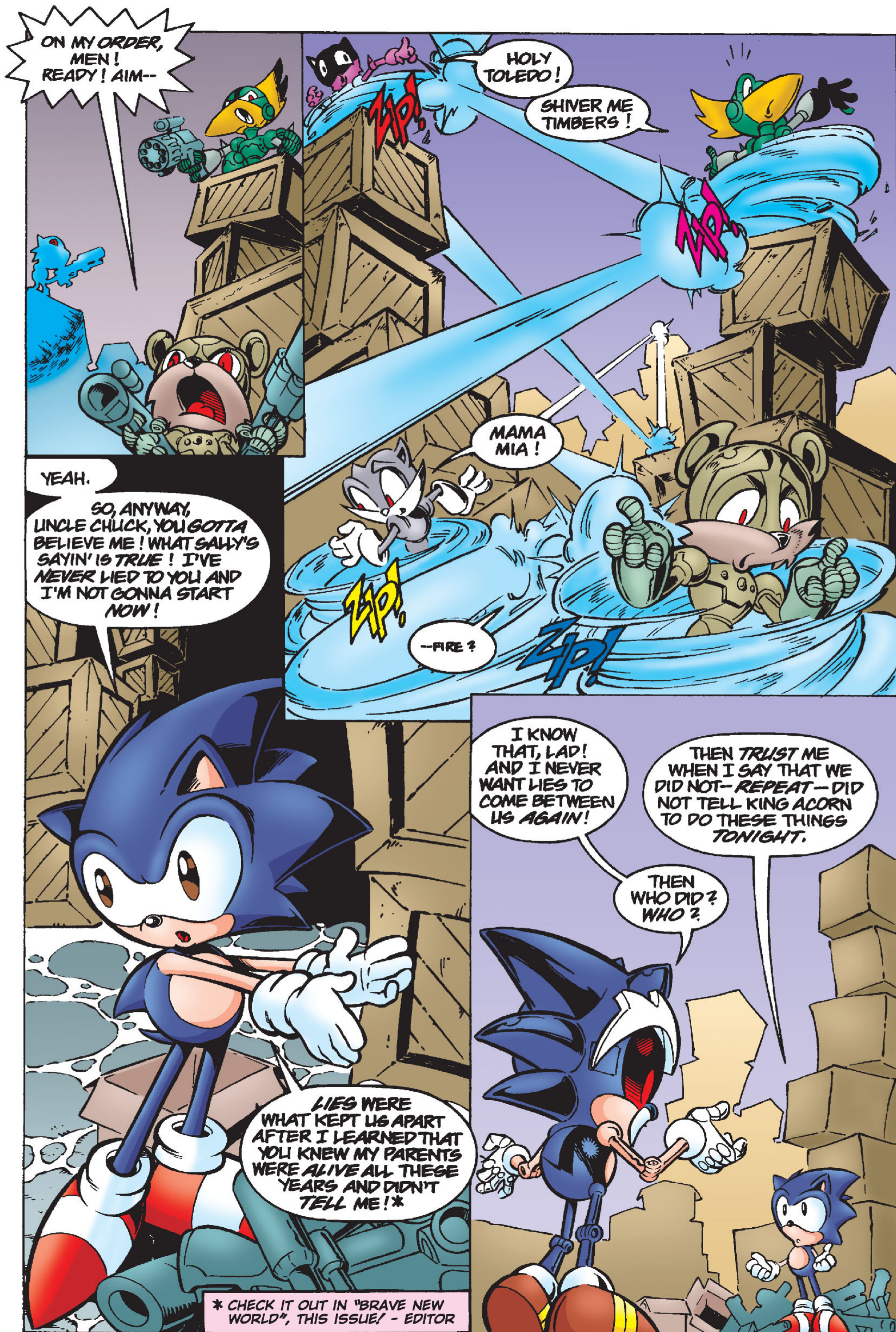
MON DIEU!

LEMME GUESS...
THIS TIME IT'S A
NO-RUNNING-FROM-THE
FLAMING-DEBRIS-
ZONE!

GUESS AGAIN,
SONIC!

LINCLE
CHUCK?!





ON MY ORDER,
MEN!
READY! AIM--

HOLY
TOLEDO!

SHIVER ME
TIMBERS!

YEAH.

SO, ANYWAY,
UNCLE CHUCK, YOU GOTTA
BELIEVE ME! WHAT SALLY'S
SAYIN' IS TRUE! I'VE
NEVER LIED TO YOU AND
I'M NOT GONNA START
NOW!

MAMA
MIA!

--FIRE?

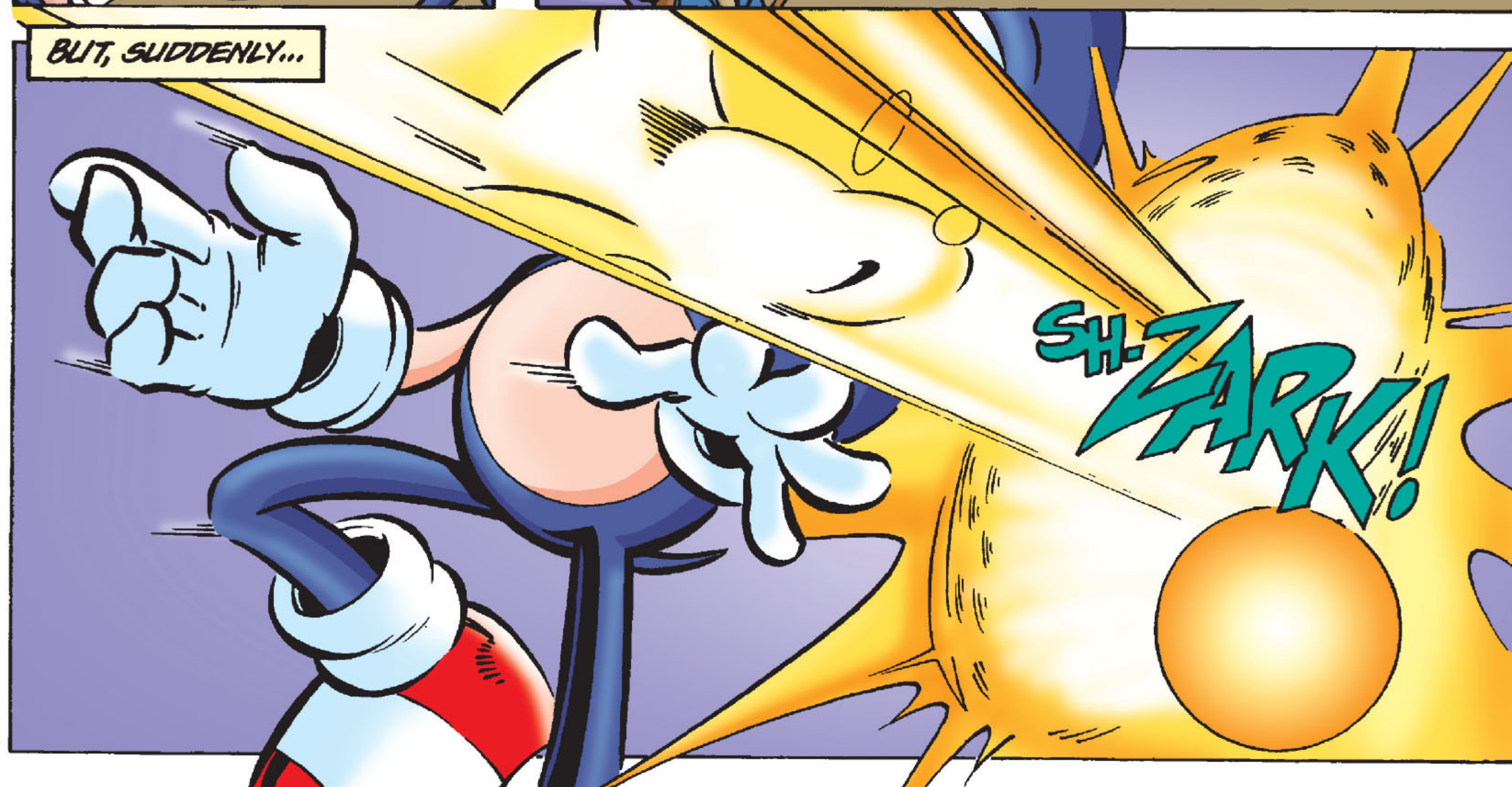
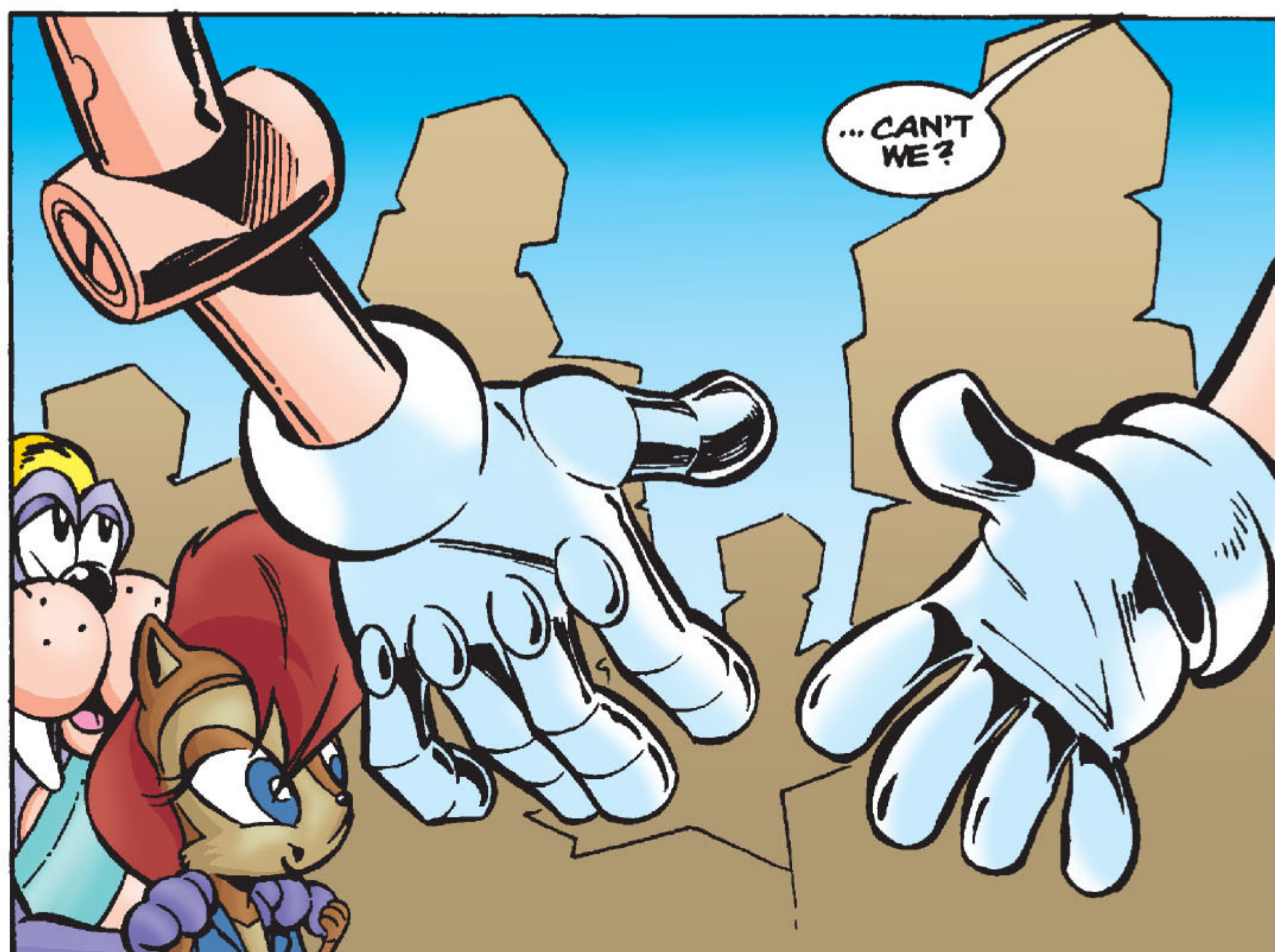
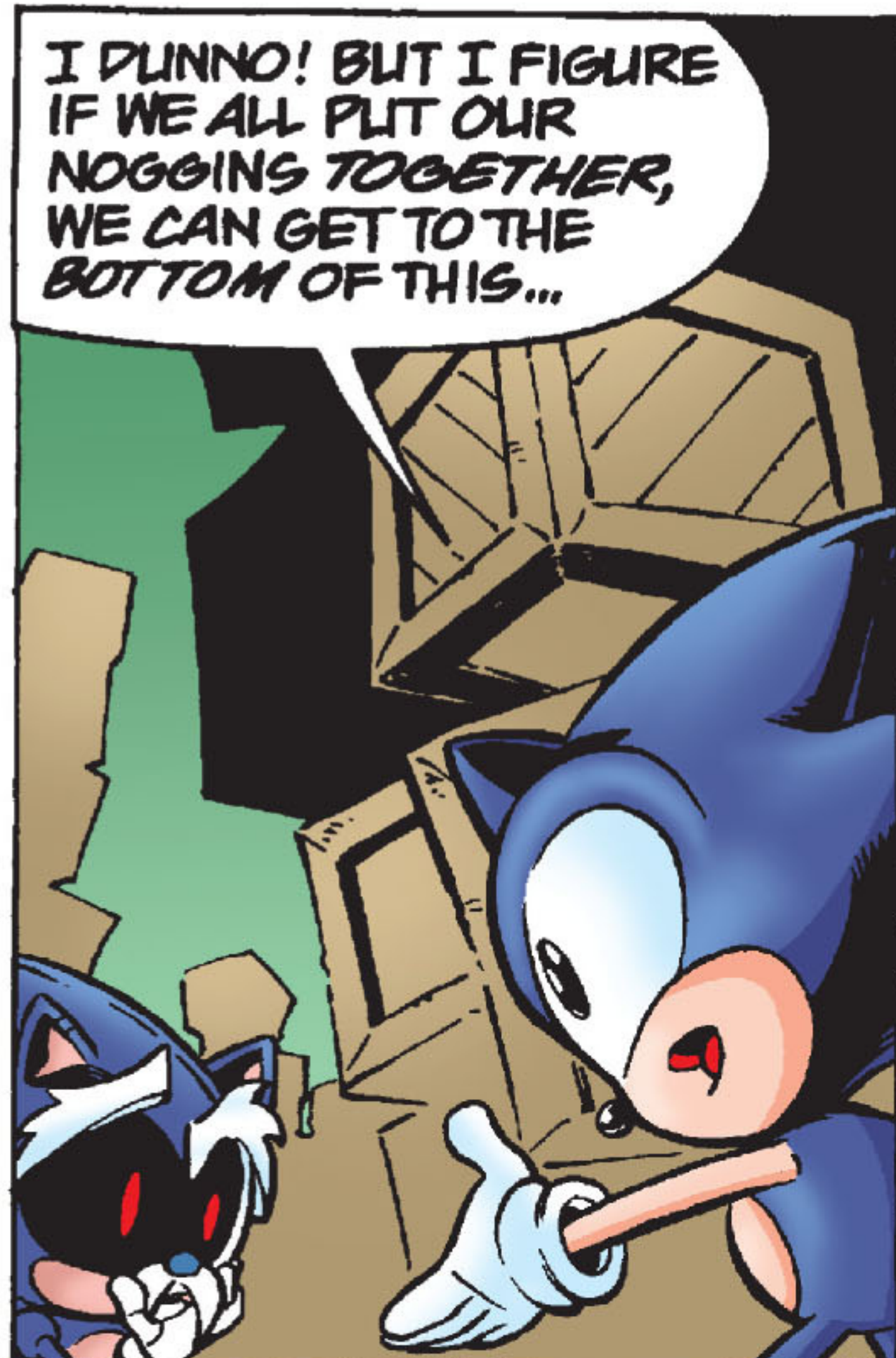
I KNOW
THAT, LAD!
AND I NEVER
WANT LIES TO
COME BETWEEN
US AGAIN!

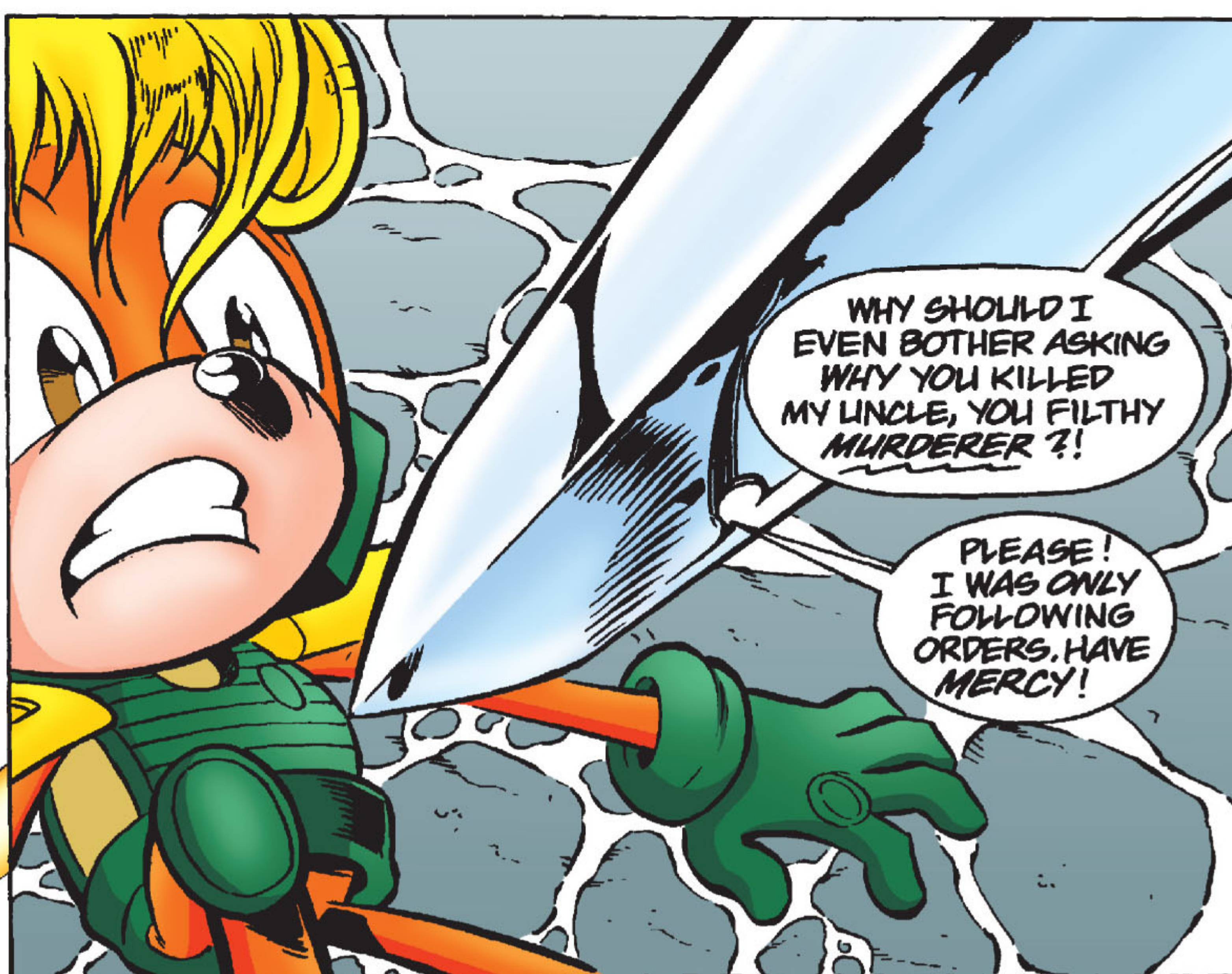
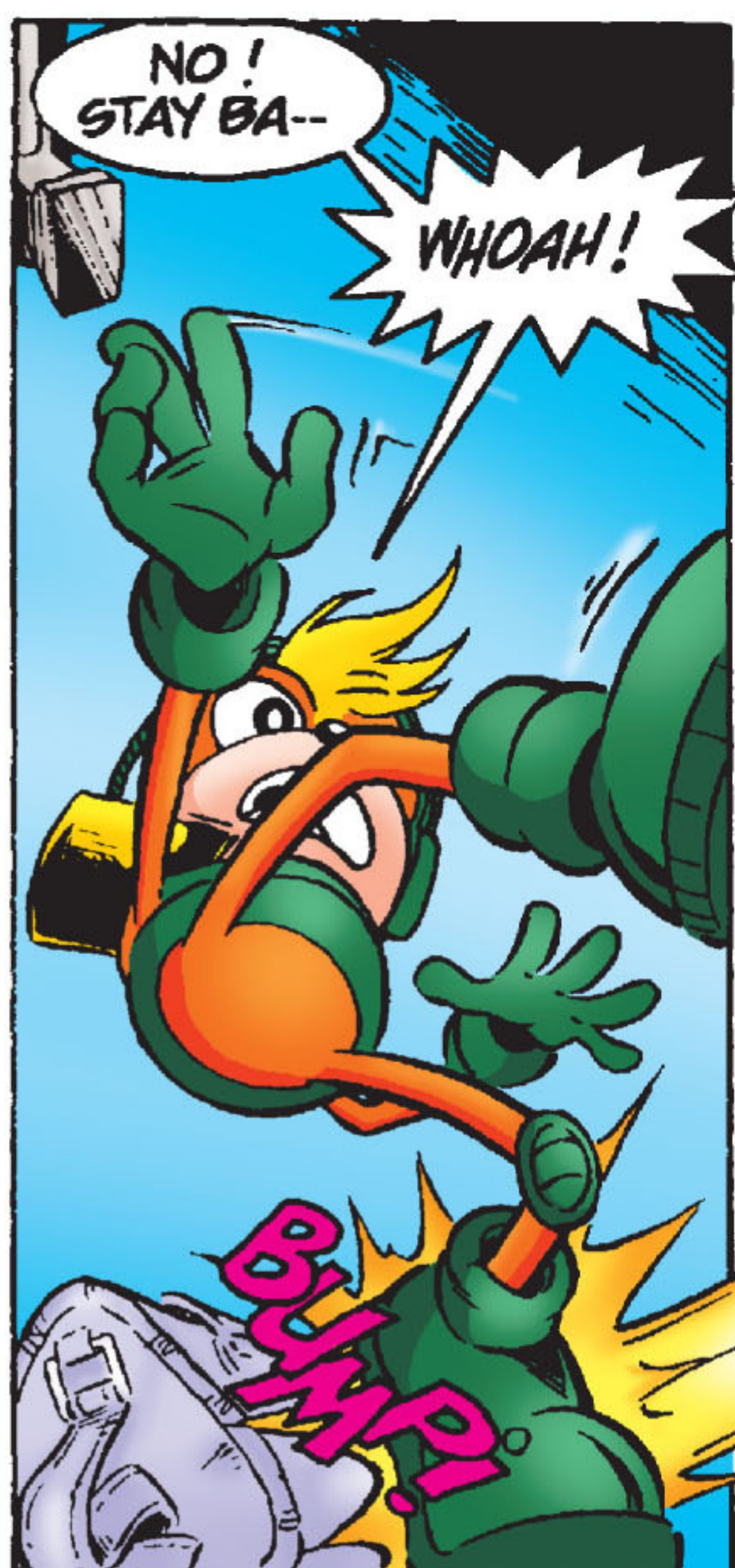
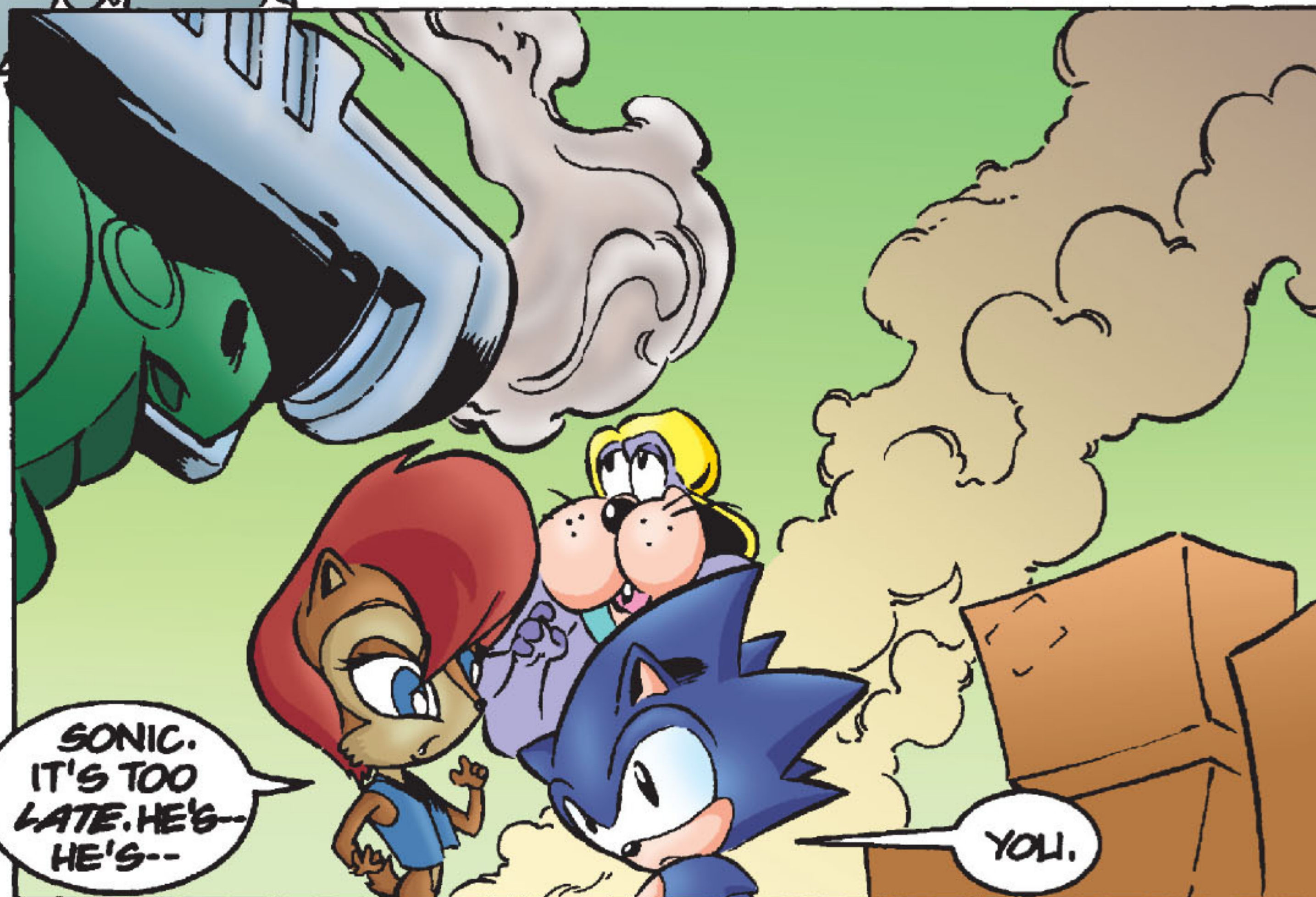
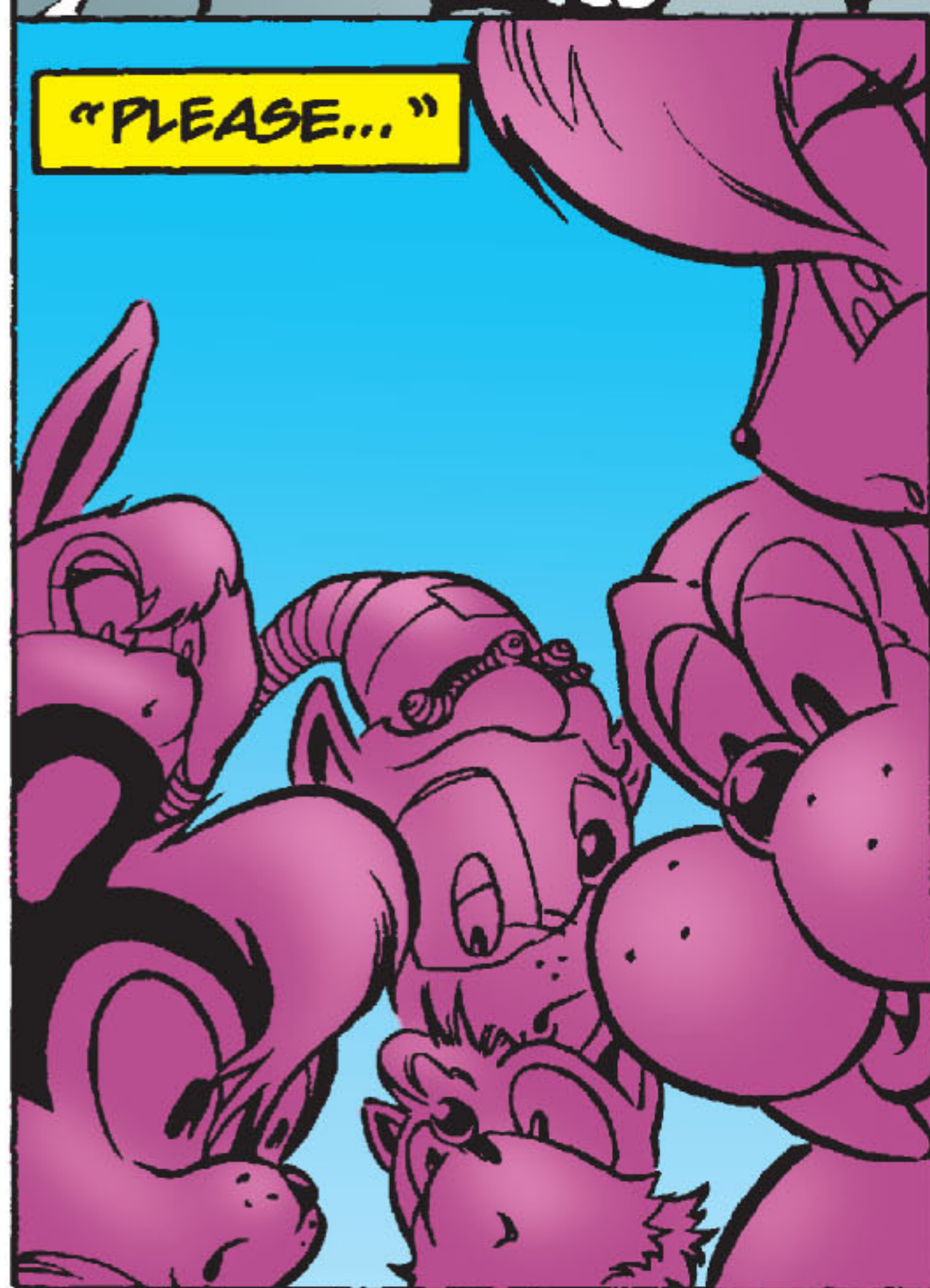
THEN TRUST ME
WHEN I SAY THAT WE
DID NOT-- REPEAT-- DID
NOT TELL KING ACORN
TO DO THESE THINGS
TONIGHT.

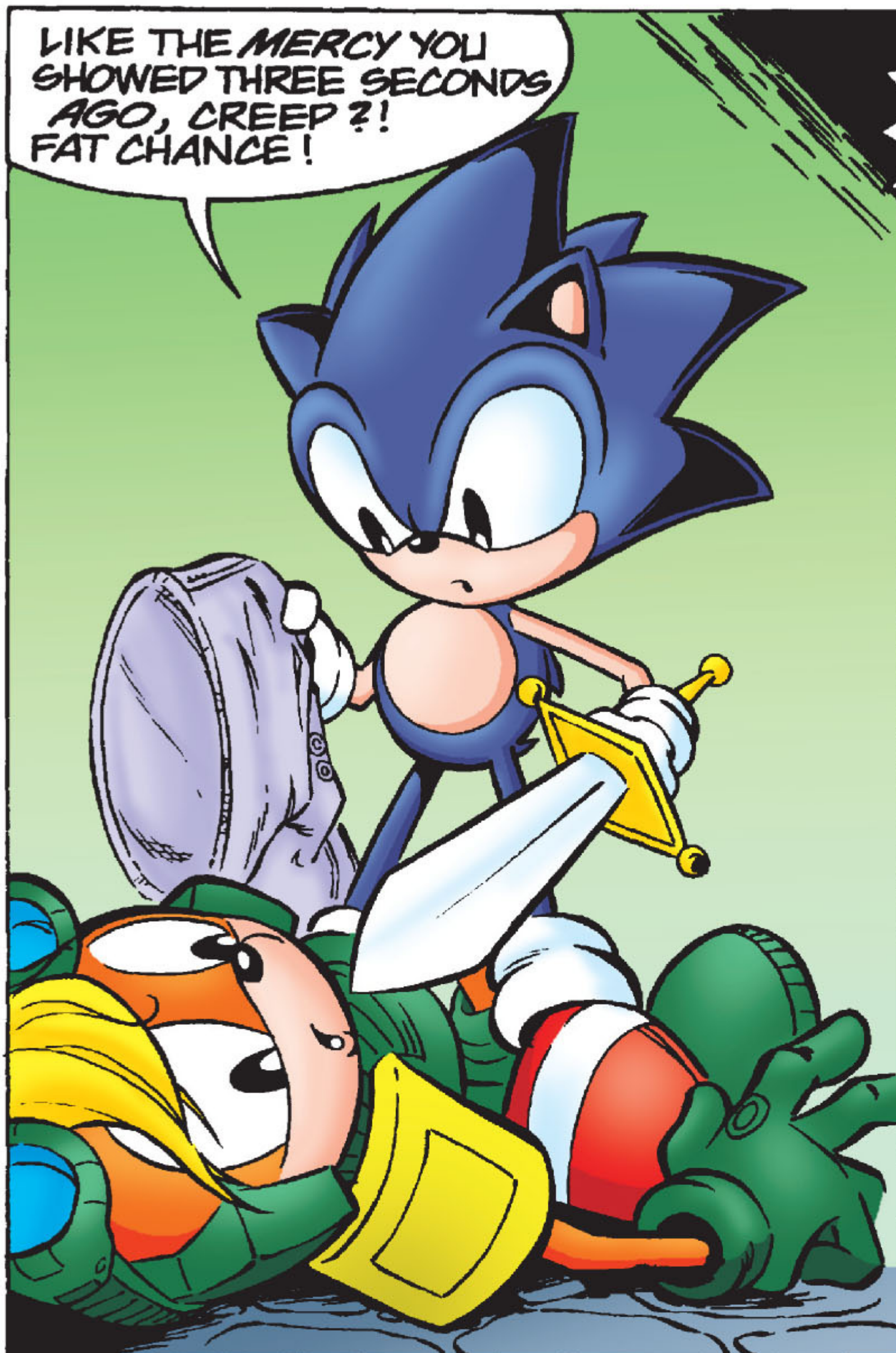
THEN
WHO DID?
WHO?

LIES WERE
WHAT KEPT US APART
AFTER I LEARNED THAT
YOU KNEW MY PARENTS
WERE ALIVE ALL THESE
YEARS AND DIDN'T
TELL ME!*

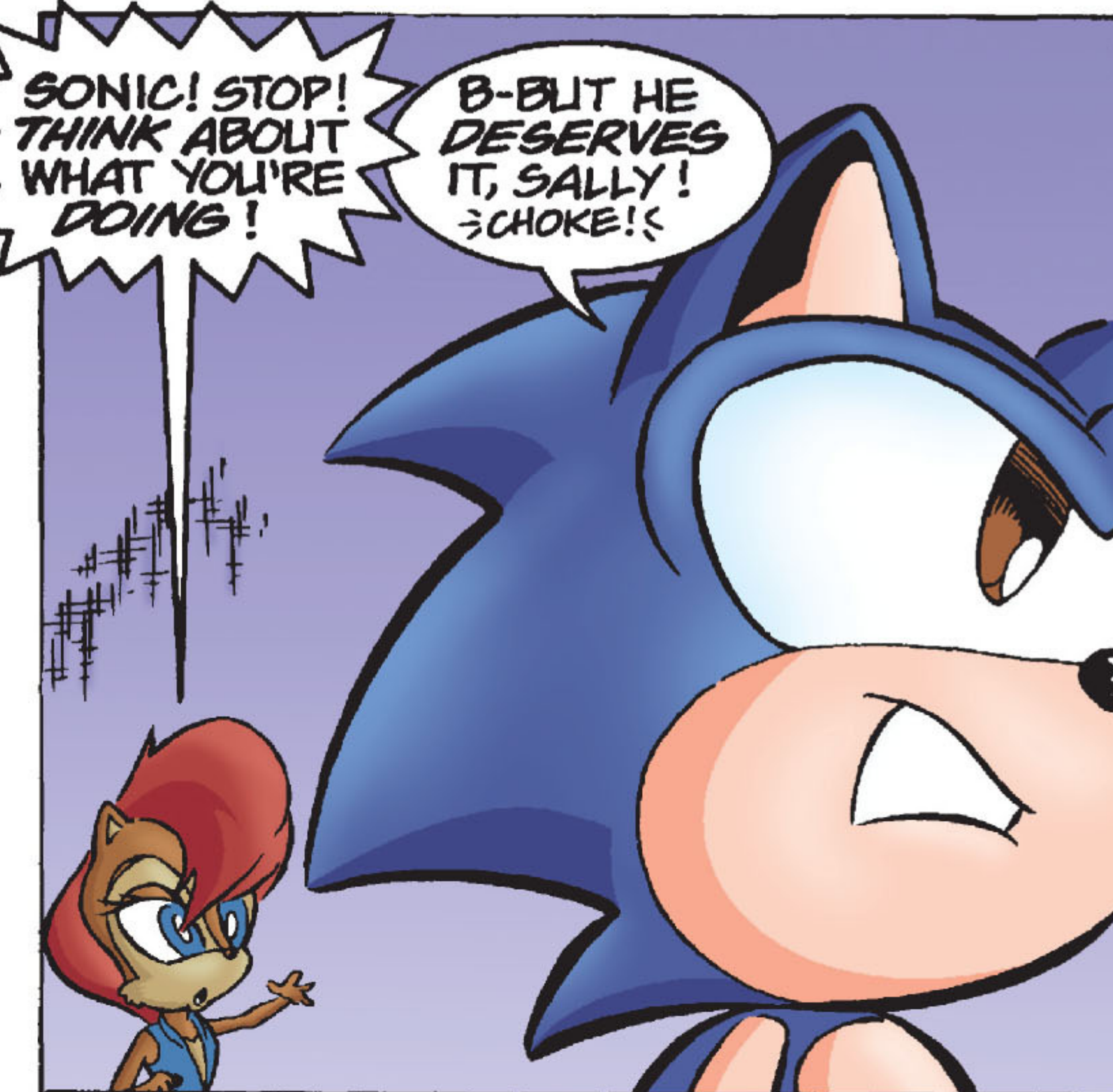
* CHECK IT OUT IN "BRAVE NEW
WORLD", THIS ISSUE! - EDITOR





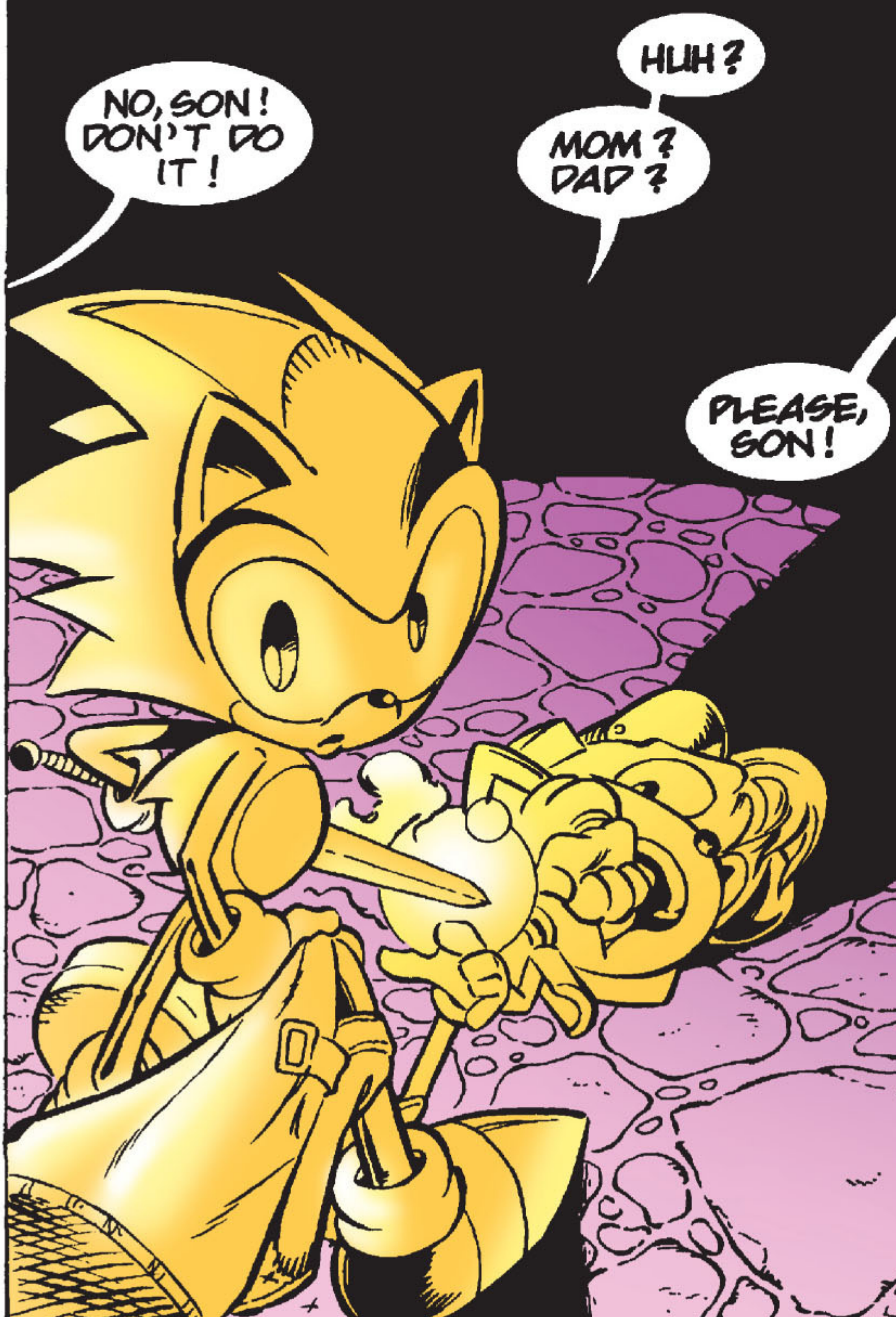


LIKE THE *MERCY* YOU SHOWED THREE SECONDS AGO, CREEP?! FAT CHANCE!



SONIC! STOP! THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

B-BUT HE DESERVES IT, SALLY! >CHOKE!<



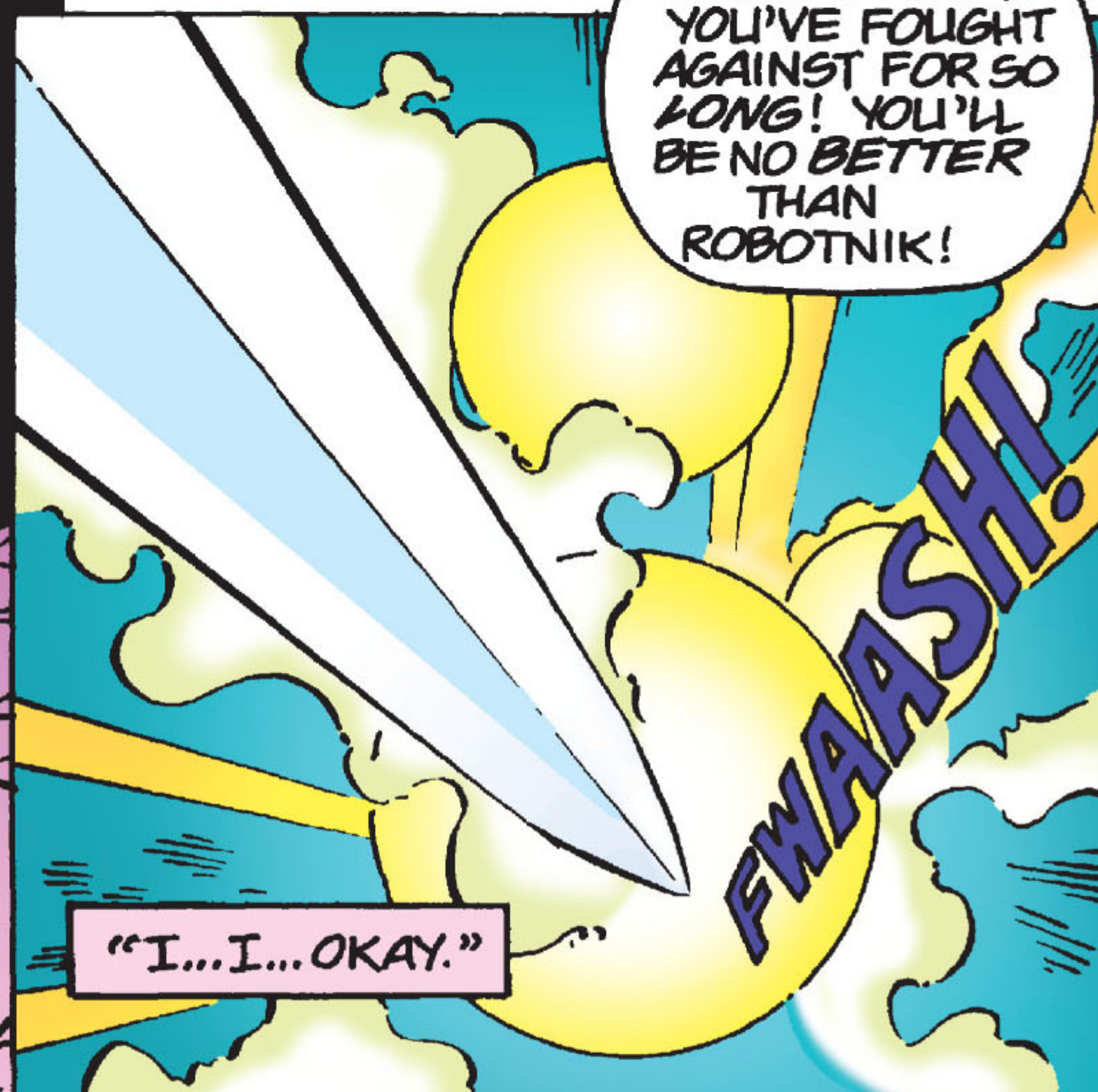
NO, SON! DON'T DO IT!

HUH?
MOM? DAD?

PLEASE, SON!

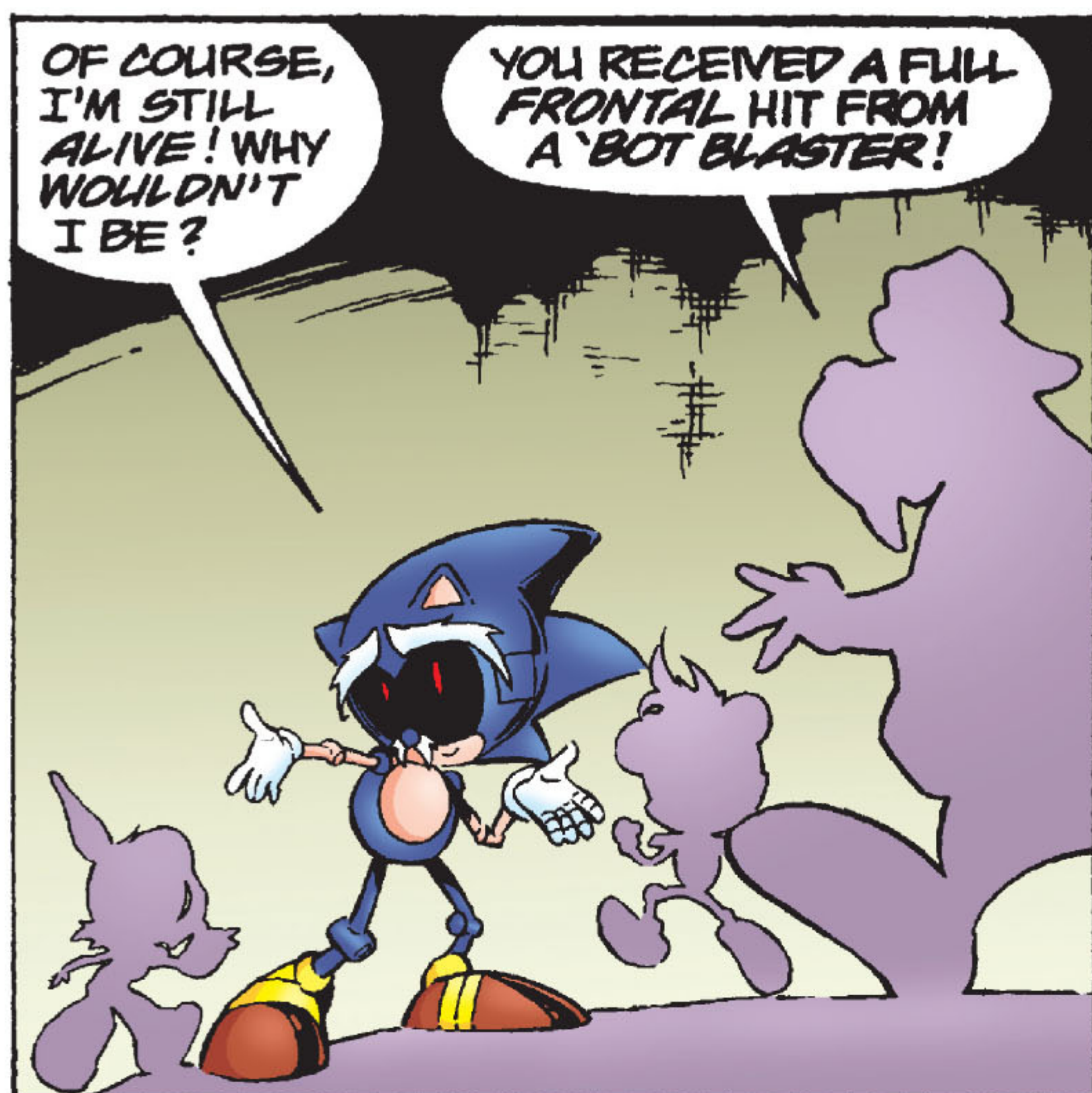
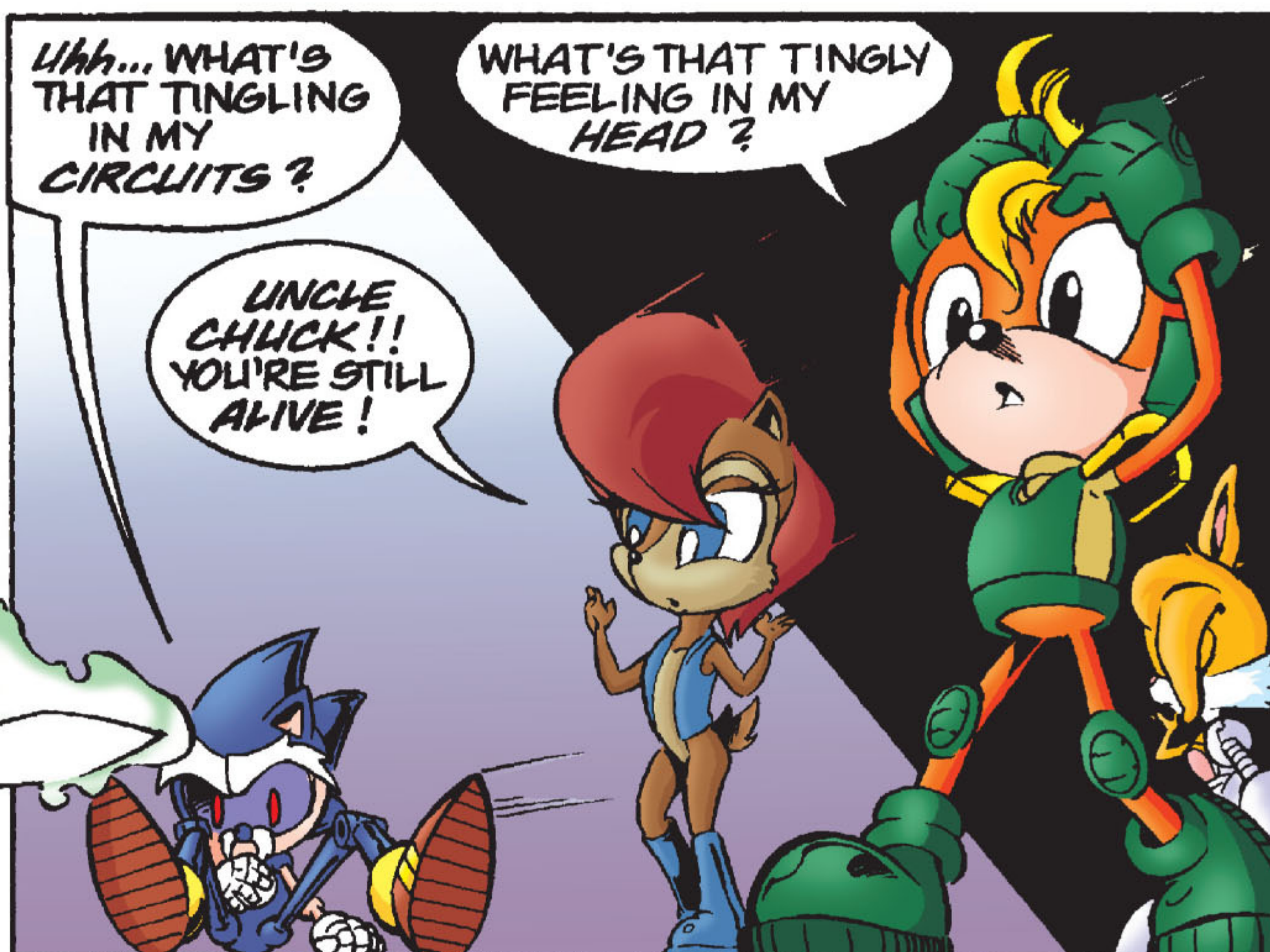
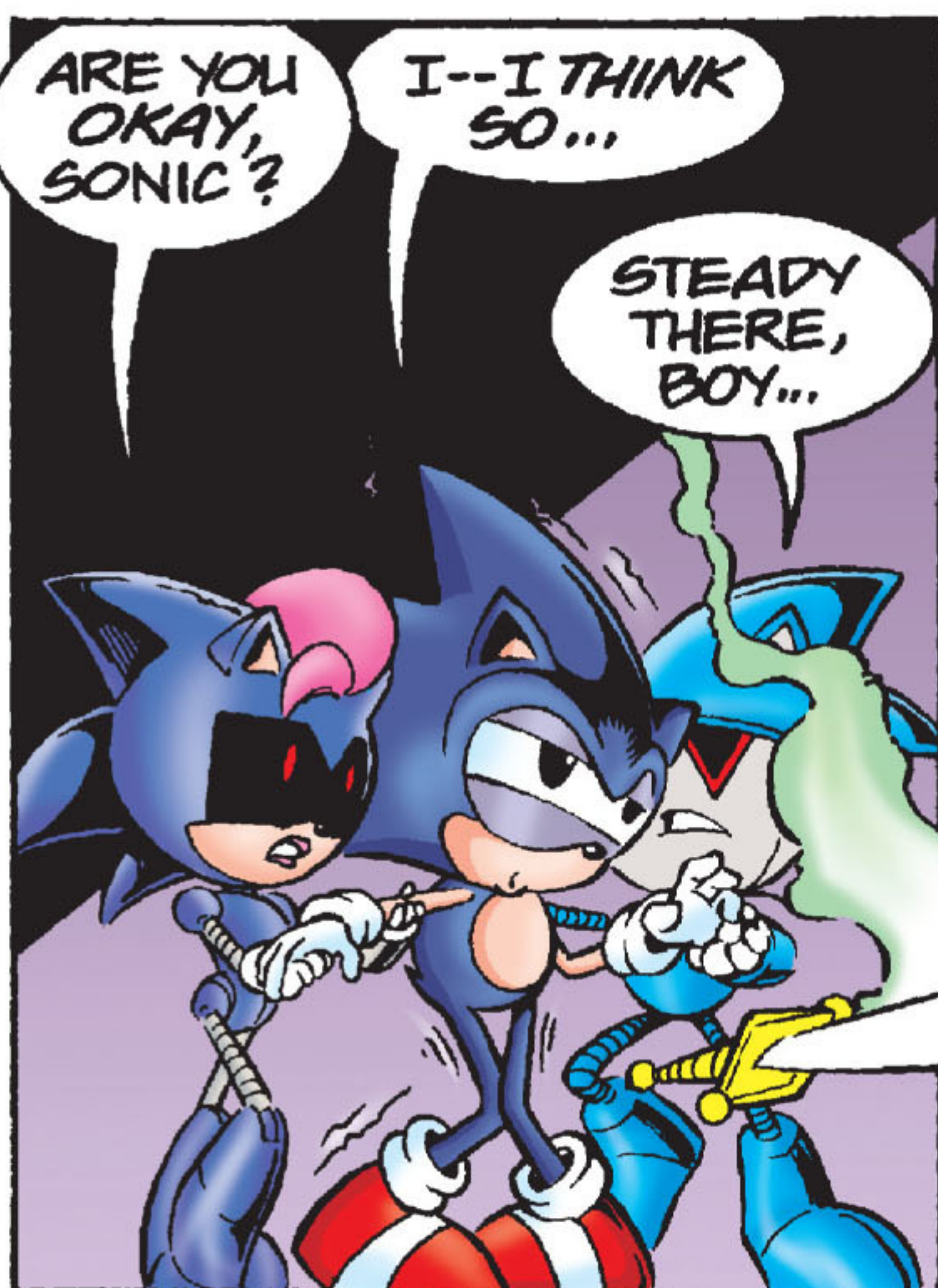
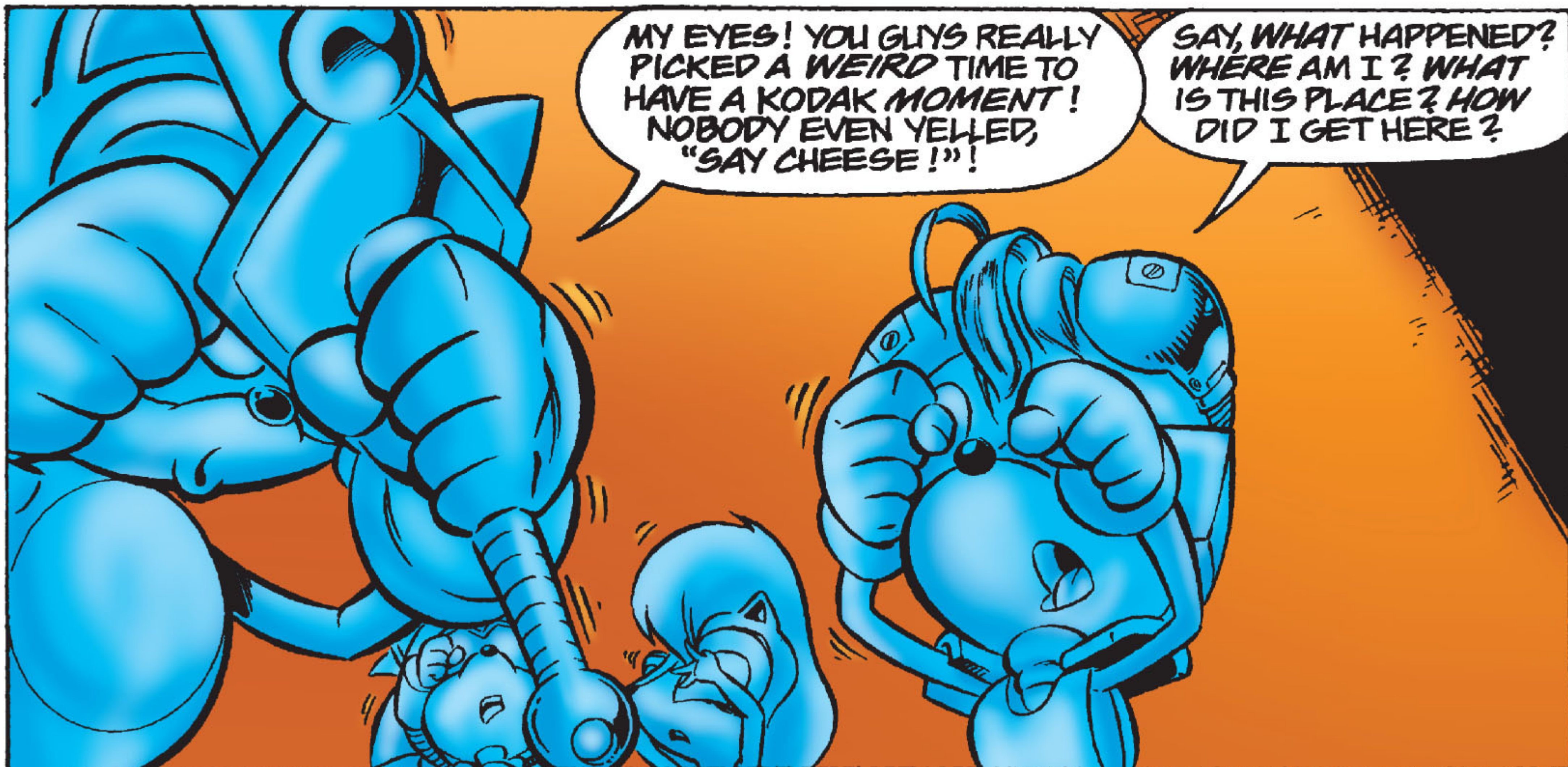


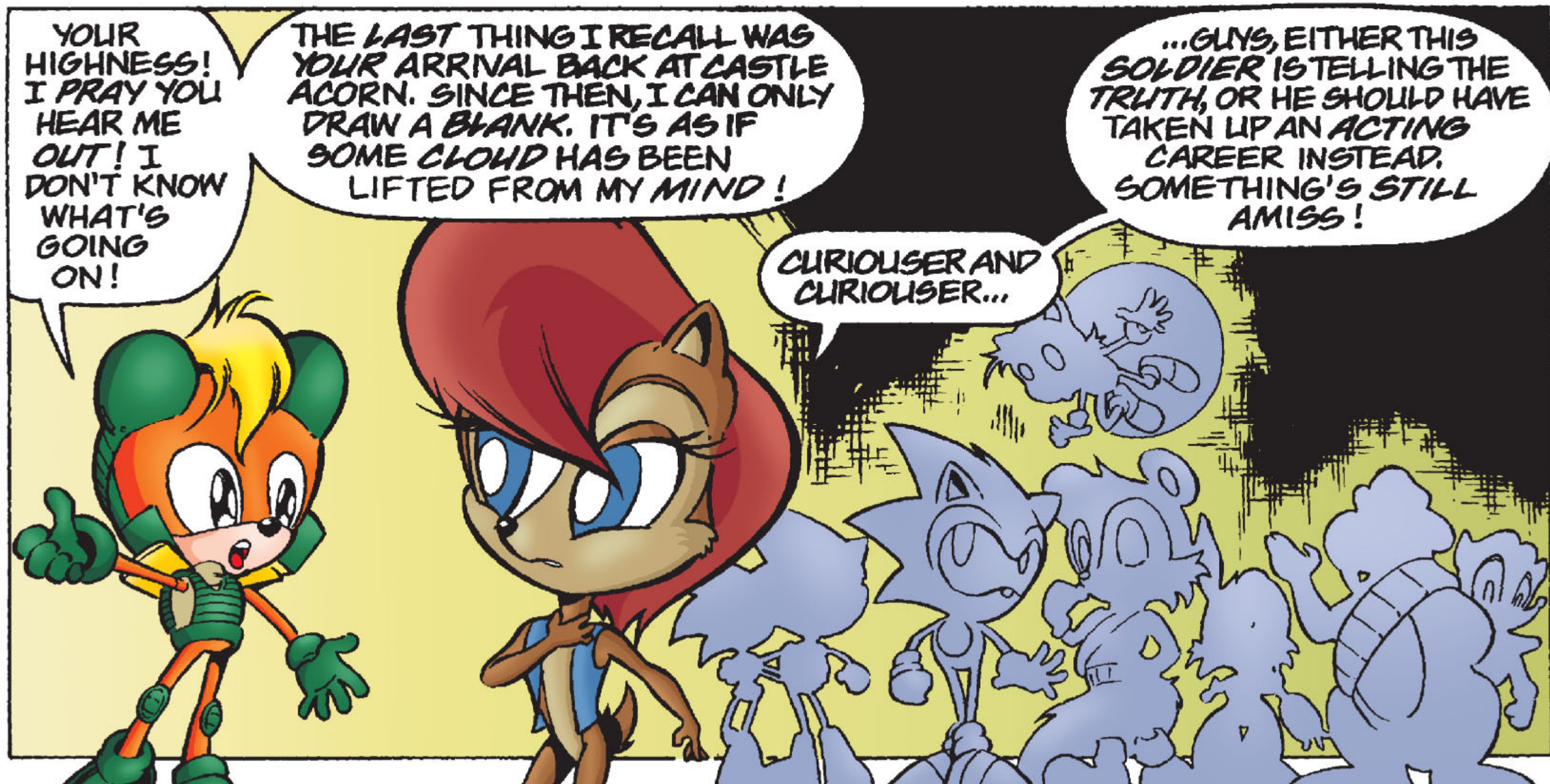
DON'T BECOME WHAT YOU'VE FOUGHT AGAINST FOR SO LONG! YOU'LL BE NO BETTER THAN ROBOTNIK!



"I...I...OKAY."

FWAASH!





YOUR HIGHNESS! I PRAY YOU HEAR ME OUT! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

THE LAST THING I RECALL WAS YOUR ARRIVAL BACK AT CASTLE ACORN. SINCE THEN, I CAN ONLY DRAW A BLANK. IT'S AS IF SOME CLOUD HAS BEEN LIFTED FROM MY MIND!

...GUYS, EITHER THIS SOLDIER IS TELLING THE TRUTH, OR HE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN UP AN ACTING CAREER INSTEAD. SOMETHING'S STILL AMISS!

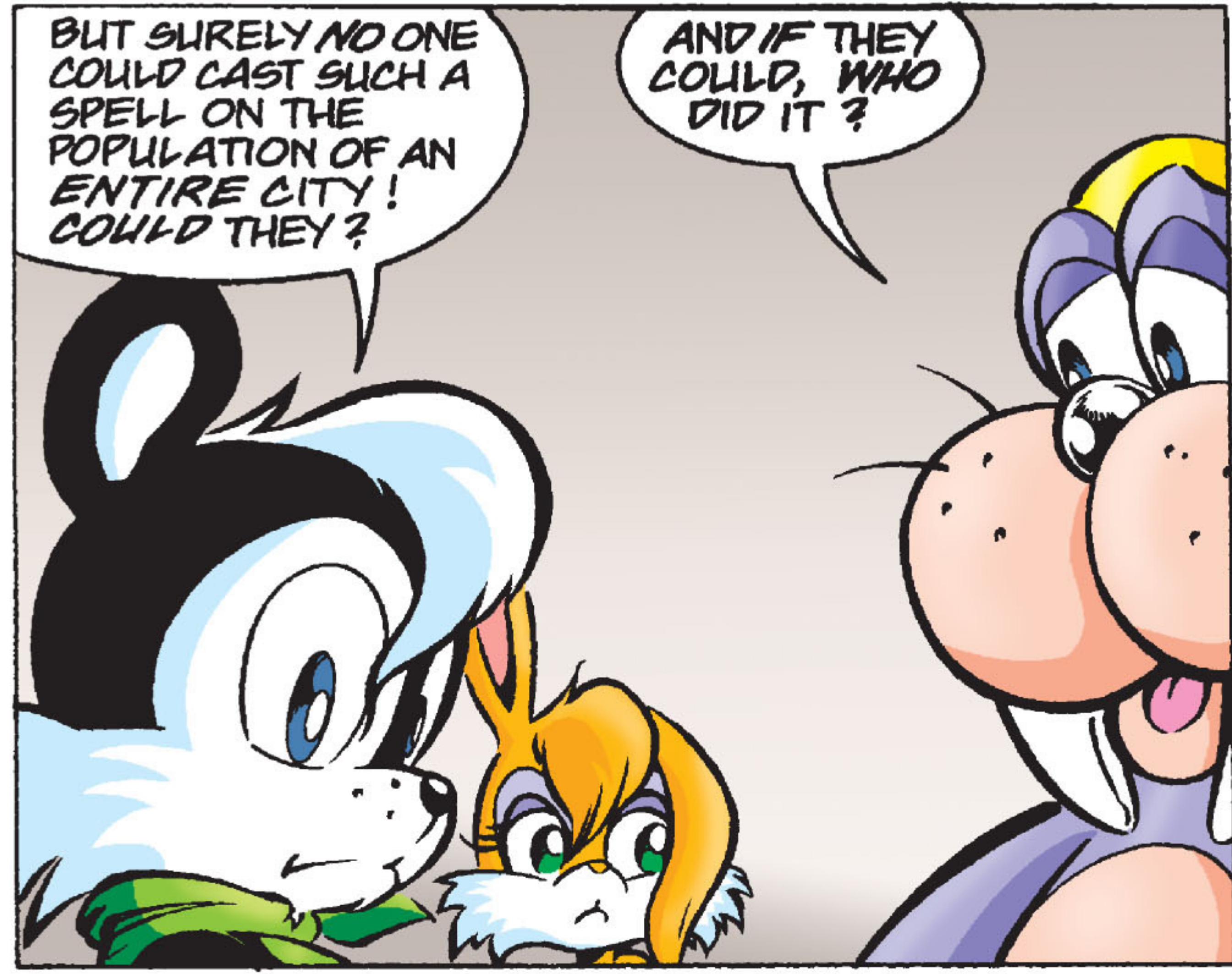
CURIOLUSER AND CURIOLUSER...



DESPITE THE LEVELS OF DISTRUST FOR THE ROBBIANS, THERE'S NO WAY THE MOBIANS WOULD DESTROY HALF THE TOWN TO HURT THEM! NOT AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH UNDER ROBOTNIK!

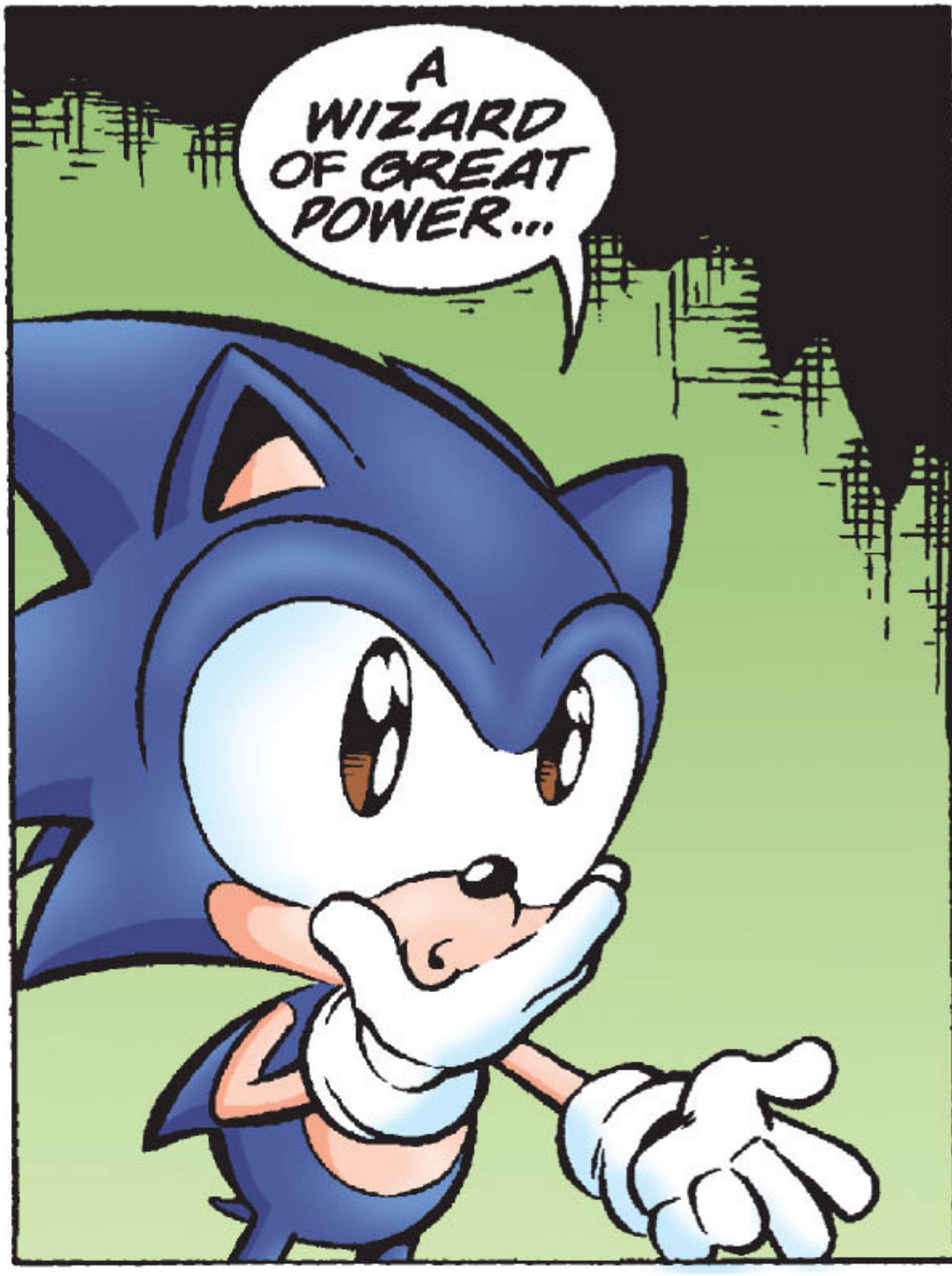
WELL, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN HIM SHOOTING SONIC'S UNCLE?

IT'S ALMOST AS IF HE WERE UNDER SOME SORT OF SPELL THAT WAS ONLY REVERSED BY THE MYSTICAL HEALING POWERS OF THE SWORD OF ACORNS. THANK GOODNESS! IT ALSO "HEALED" UNCLE CHUCK!



BUT SURELY NO ONE COULD CAST SUCH A SPELL ON THE POPULATION OF AN ENTIRE CITY! COULD THEY?

AND IF THEY COULD, WHO DID IT?



A WIZARD OF GREAT POWER...

AND SOON, WITHIN
THE MAIN
COURTROOM OF
CASTLE ACORN, WE
FIND...

SONIC IN

The Return of the King

PART 4

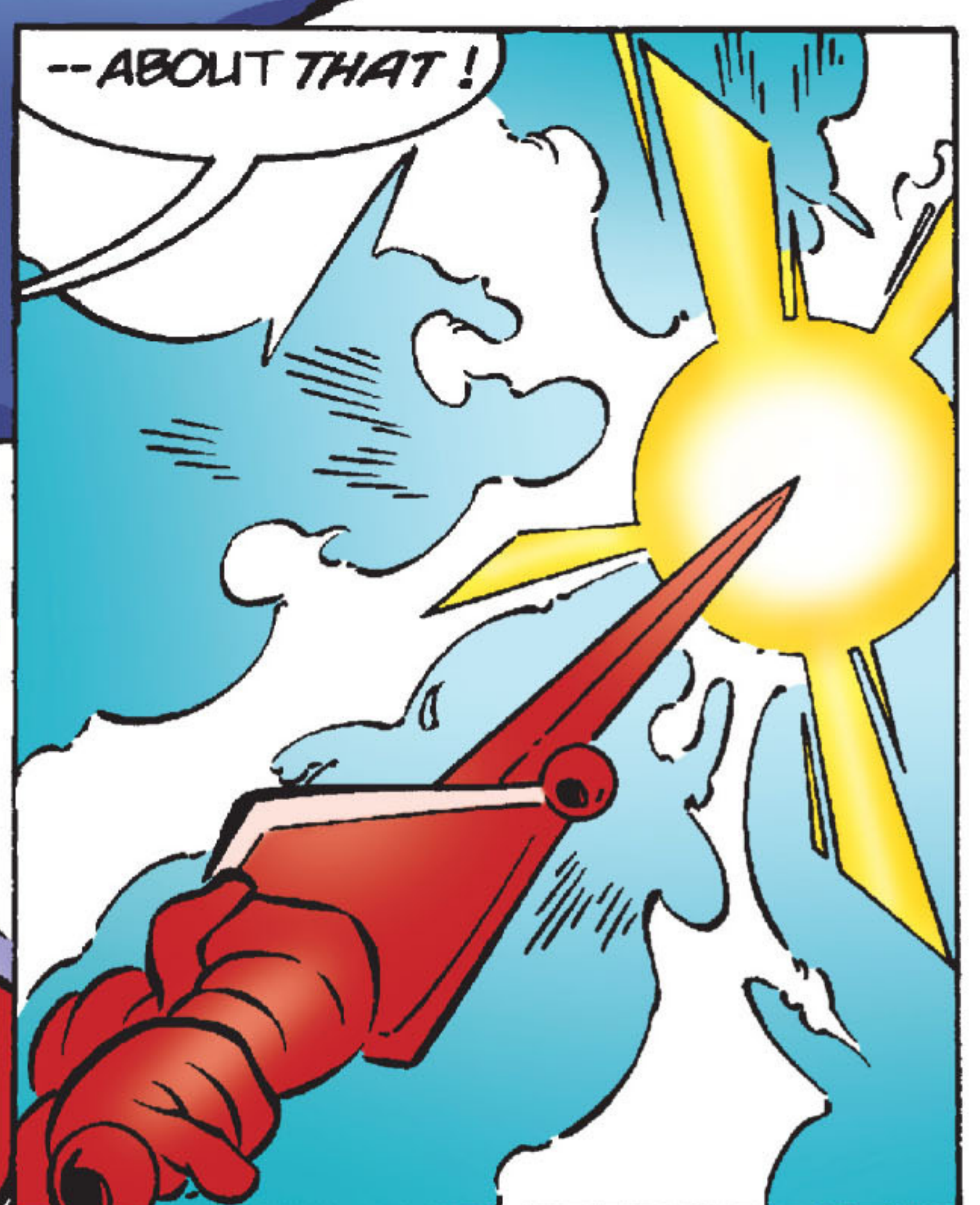
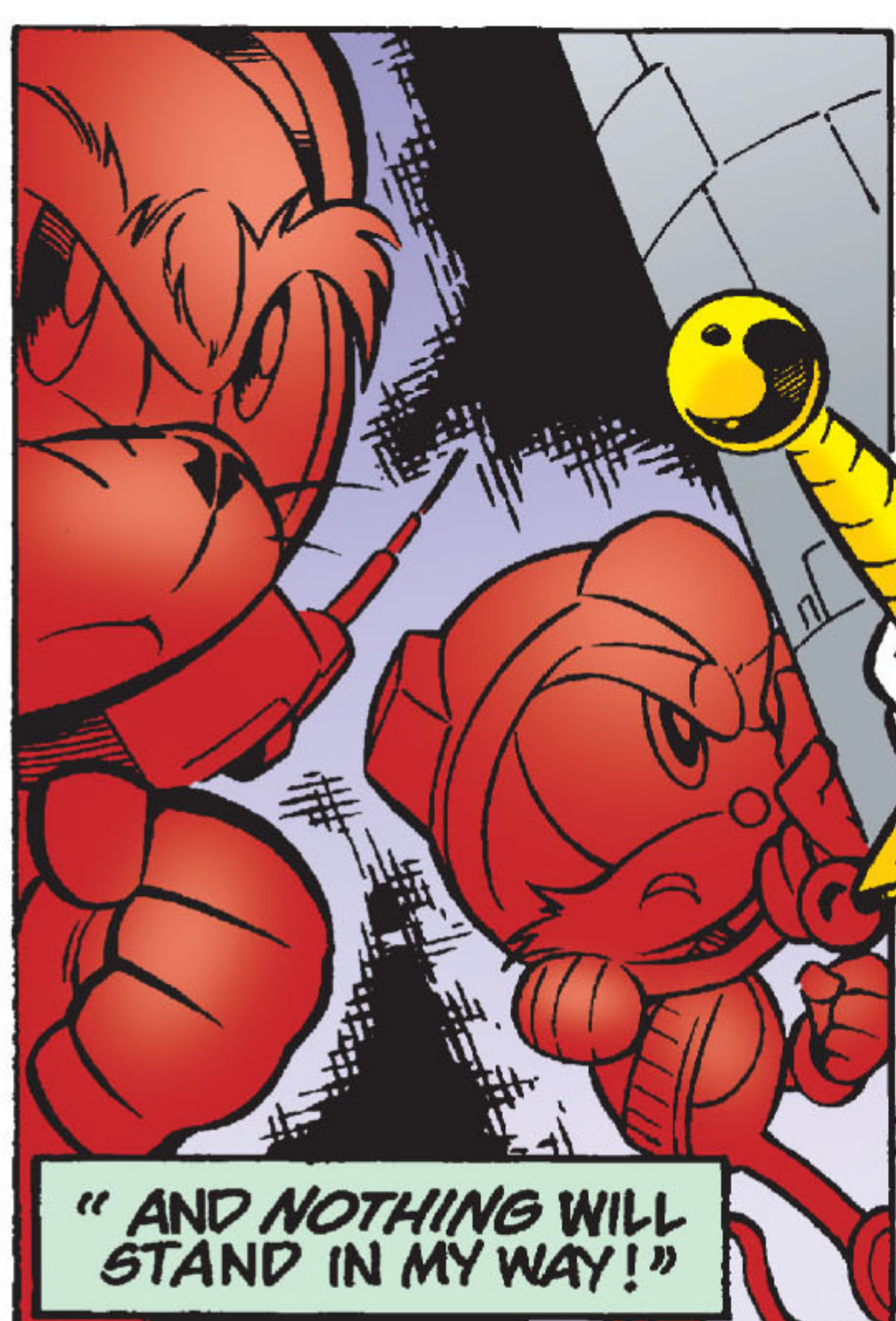
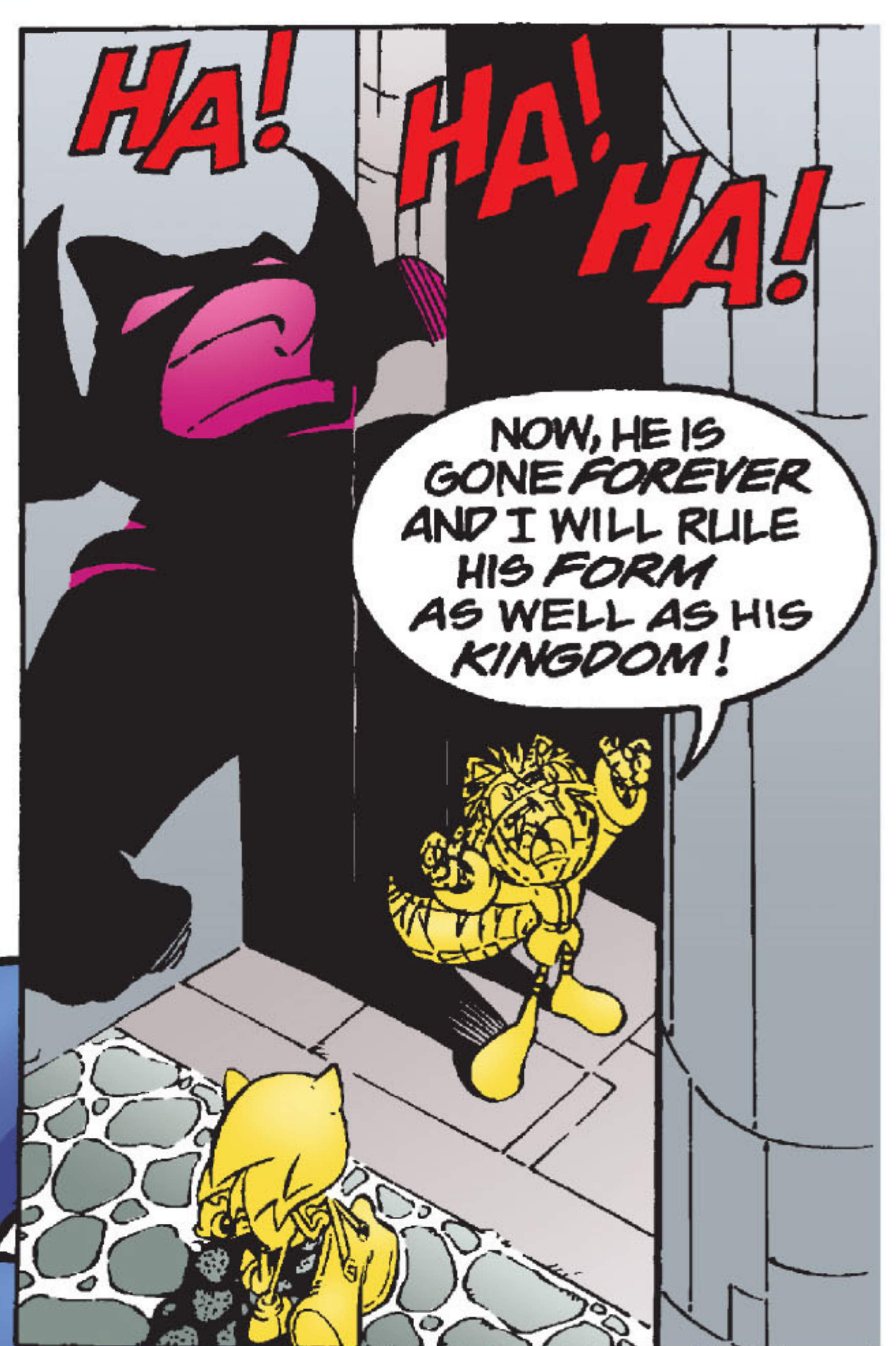
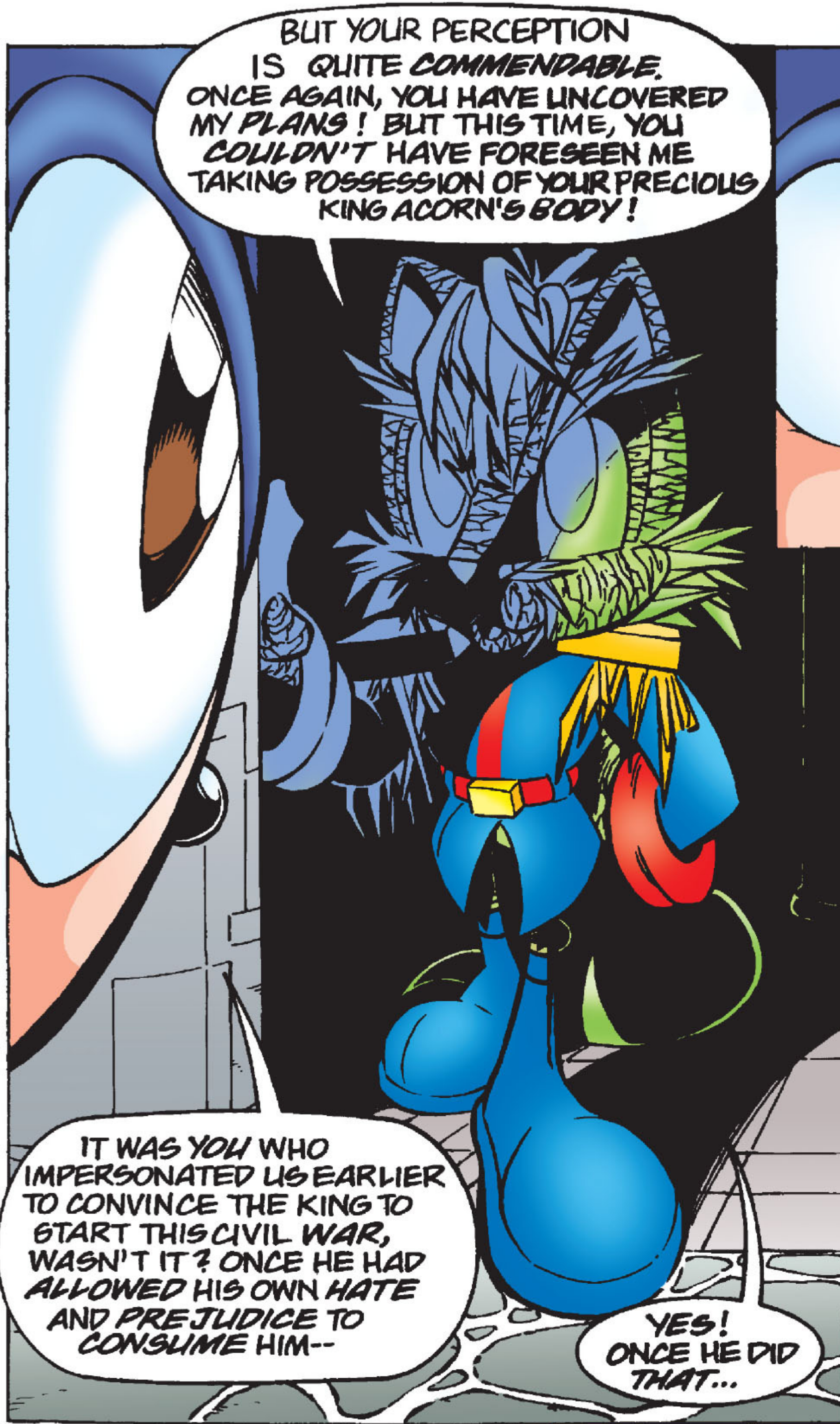
IXIS
NAUGUS! I
FIGURED IT OUT!
EVERYTHING THAT'S
HAPPENED HERE REEKS
OF YOU AND YOUR
BOGUS MAGIC!
COME OUT AND FACE
ME LIKE A BAT...UHH...
CRAB...UHH...

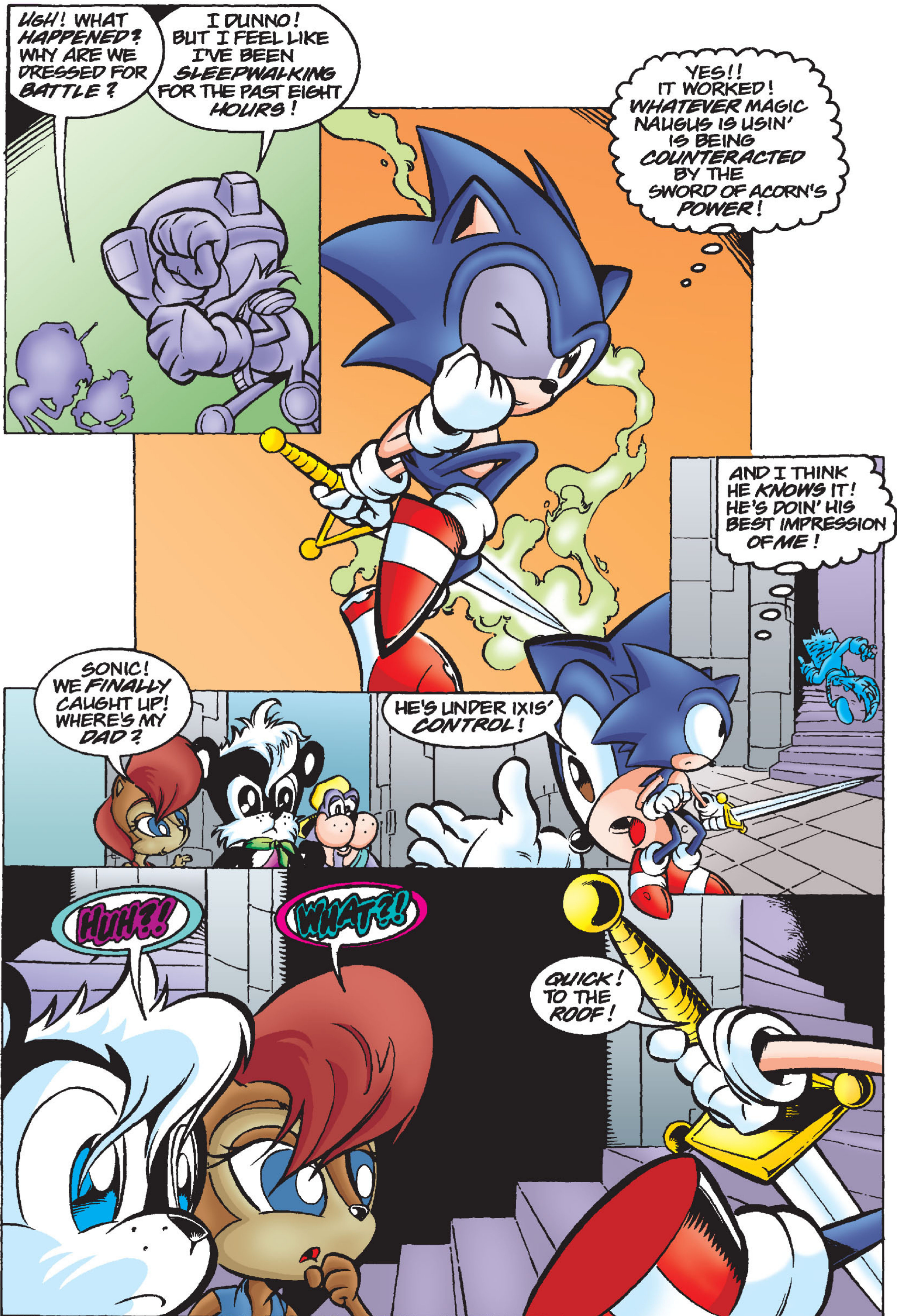
...WELL
YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU ARE BETTER
THAN I DO!
SO, JUST SHOW
YOURSELF!

WE BEAT YA
FAIR AND SQUARE THE
LAST TIME YOU TRIED
TO TAKE OVER THE
KINGDOM... AND WE'LL DO
IT AGAIN!*

THERE WAS NO LAST
TIME, QUICKSTER, CONSIDERING I
NEVER LEFT BUT HAVE BEEN HIDING
IN YOUR FAIR CITY.

* SEE ARCHIVES 14!
- YE OLDE EDITOR.





COME NOT ONE
STEP CLOSER, QUICKSTER!
OR I WILL DESTROY YOUR
RULER'S BODY WHEN I LEAP
FROM THIS PRECIPICE!
I KID YOU NOT!

ALL I NEED
DO IS DISPOSSESS
HIM TO INSURE MY
OWN SAFETY!

≧GASP!≦

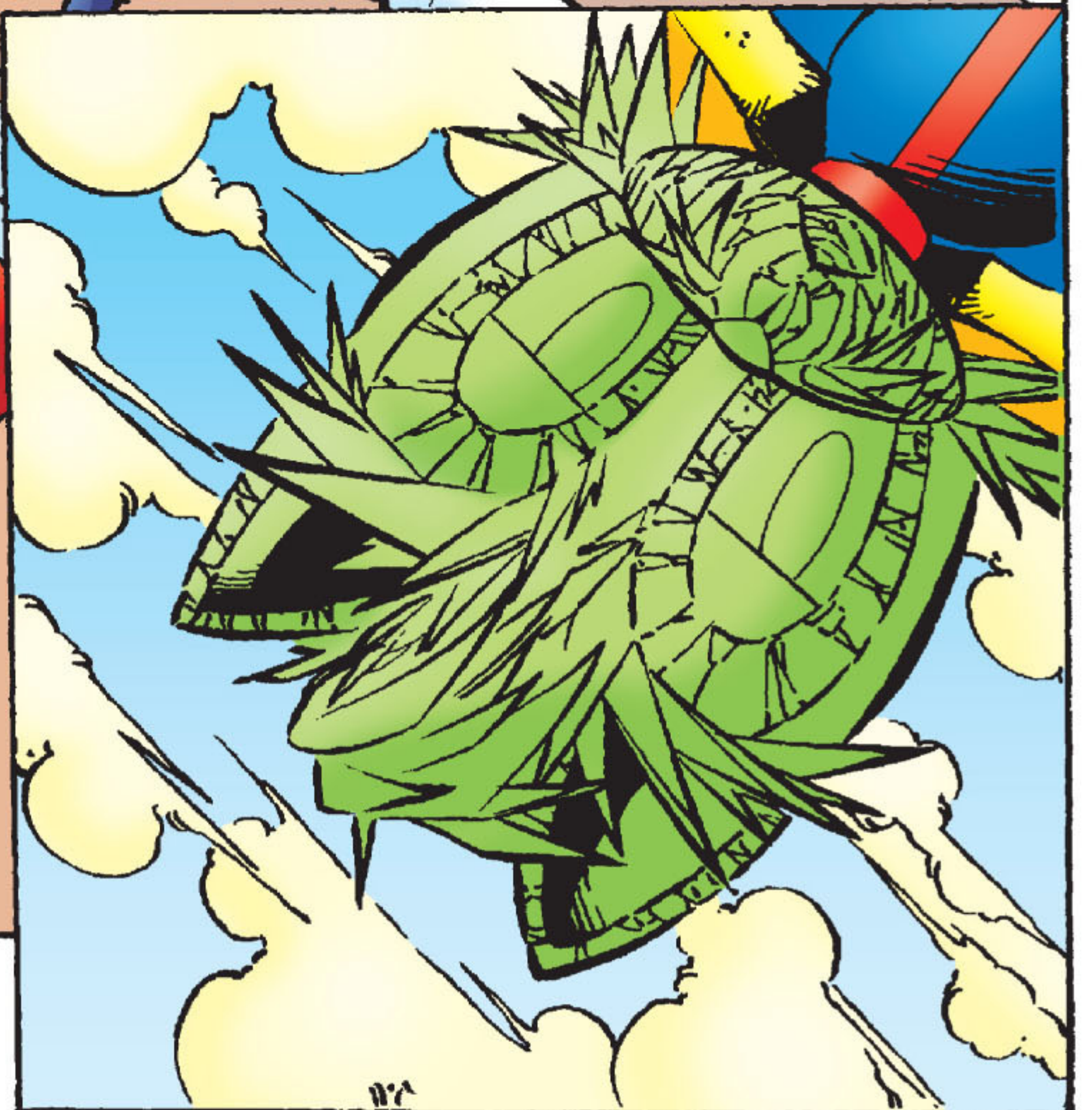
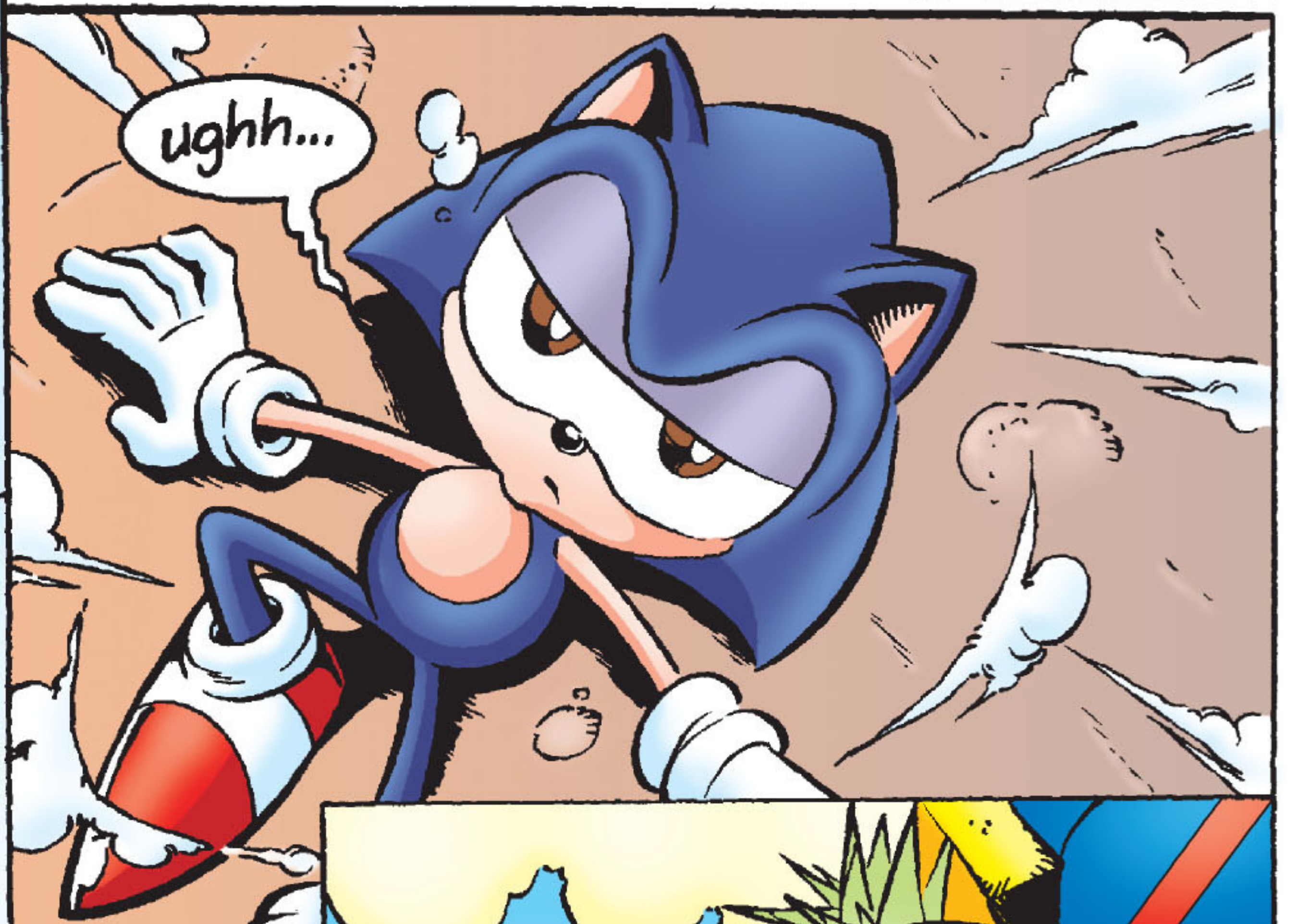
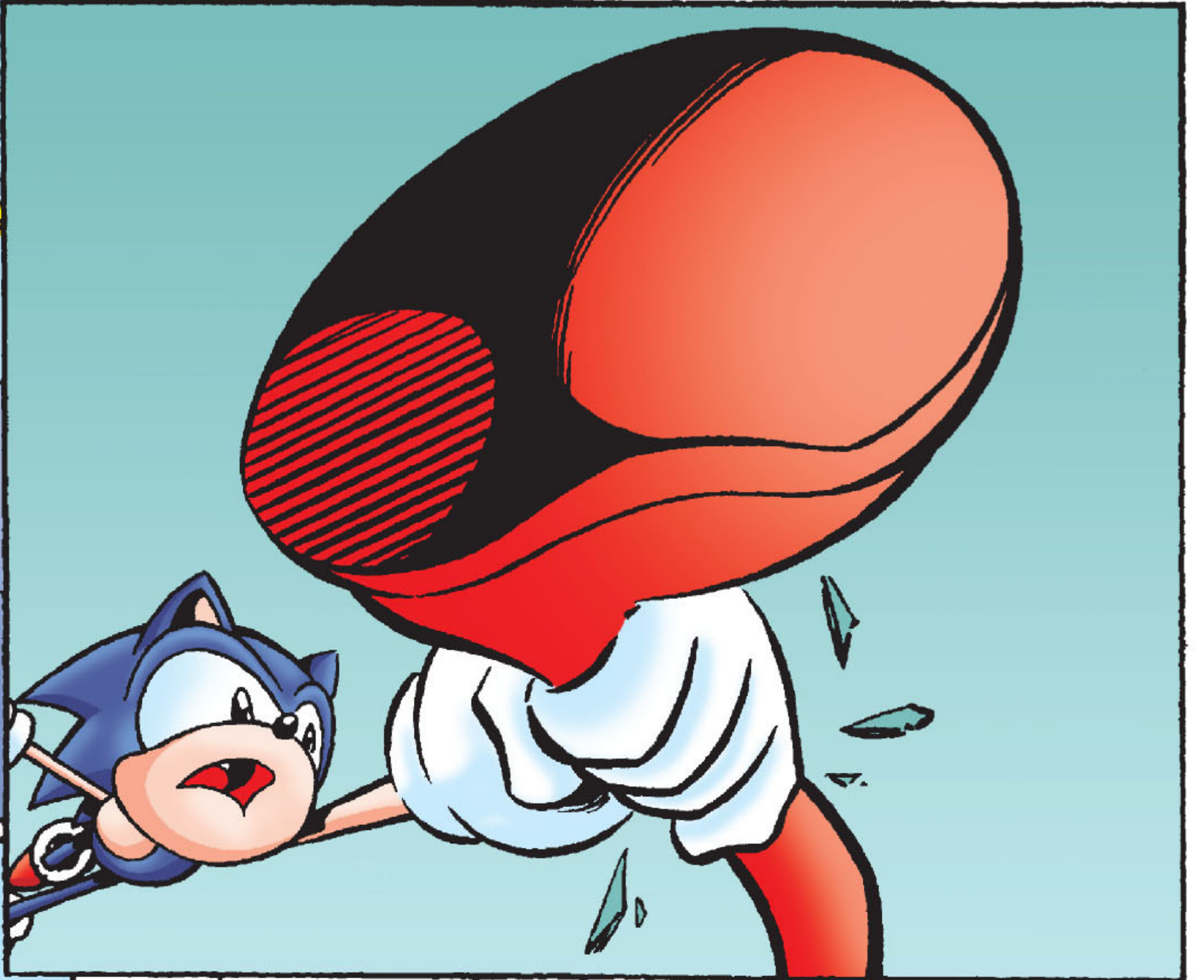
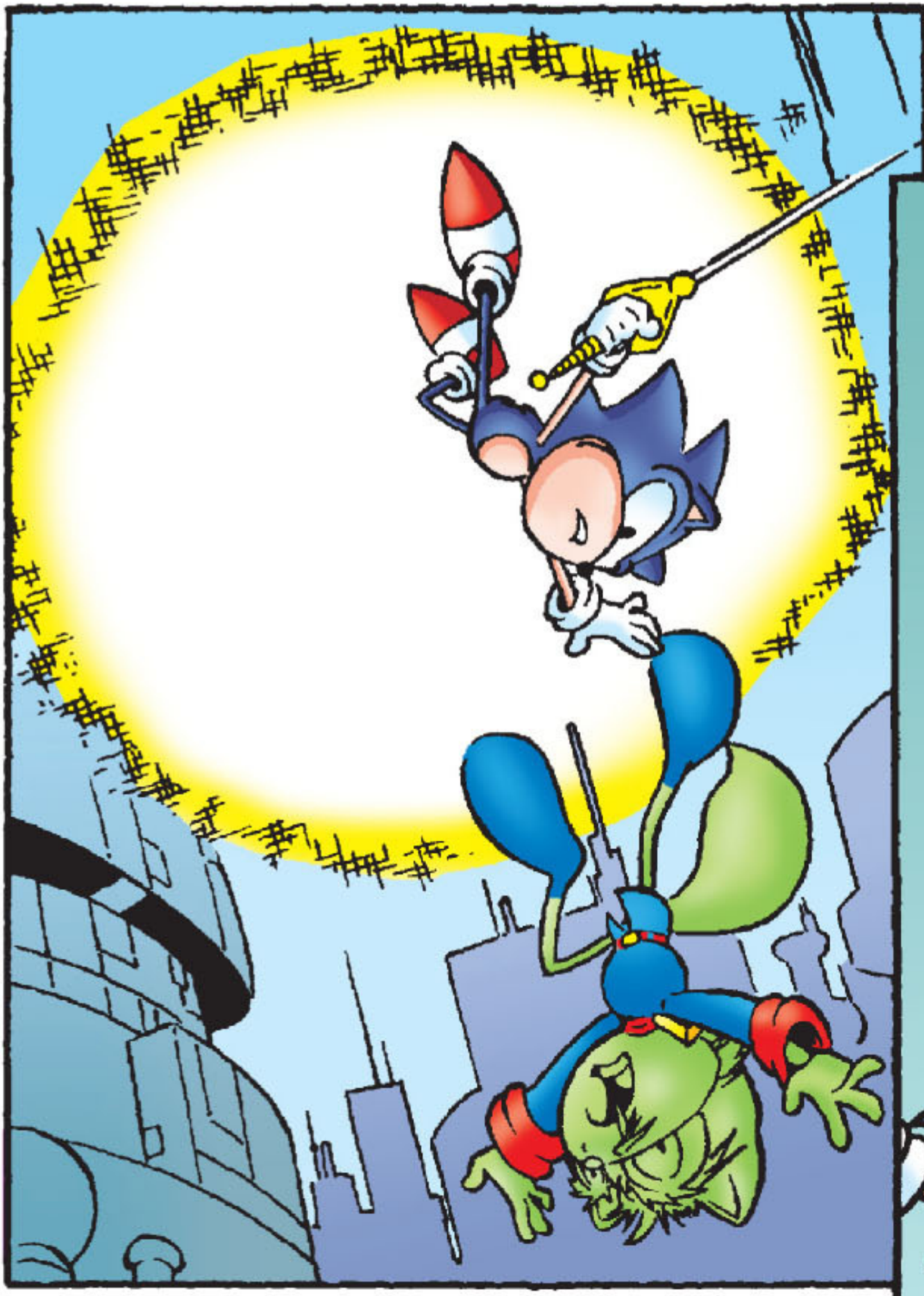
YOU'RE BLOWIN'
SMOKE, IXE! THE SWORD
OF ACORNS IS MAKIN' YOU
WEAKER AND YOU'RE
JUST TOO MUCH OF A WIMP
TO FESS UP!

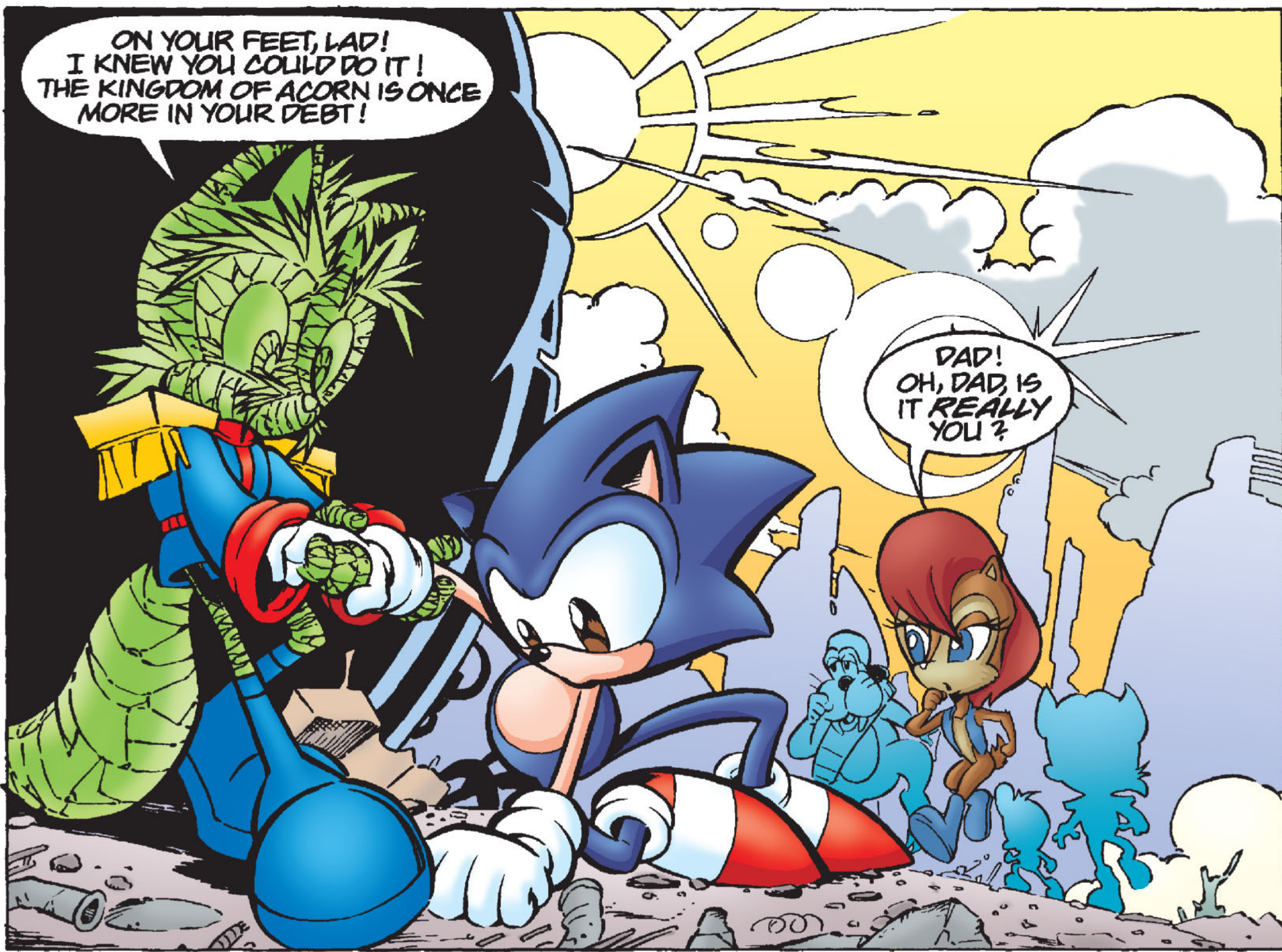
AAARGGHH!

IF I CAN'T RULE
MOBOTROPOLIS...

...THEN NO
ONE WILL!

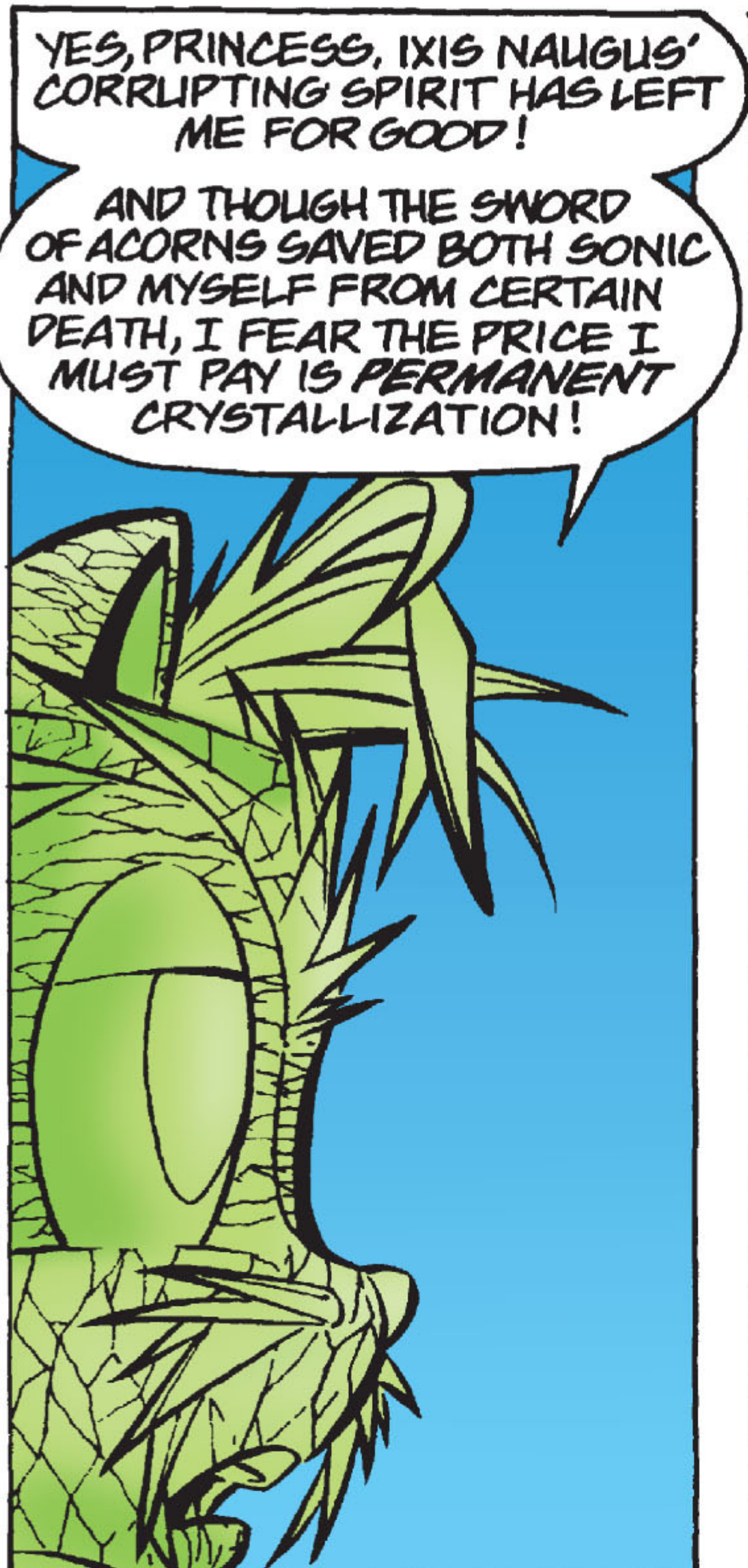
NOOOOOO!





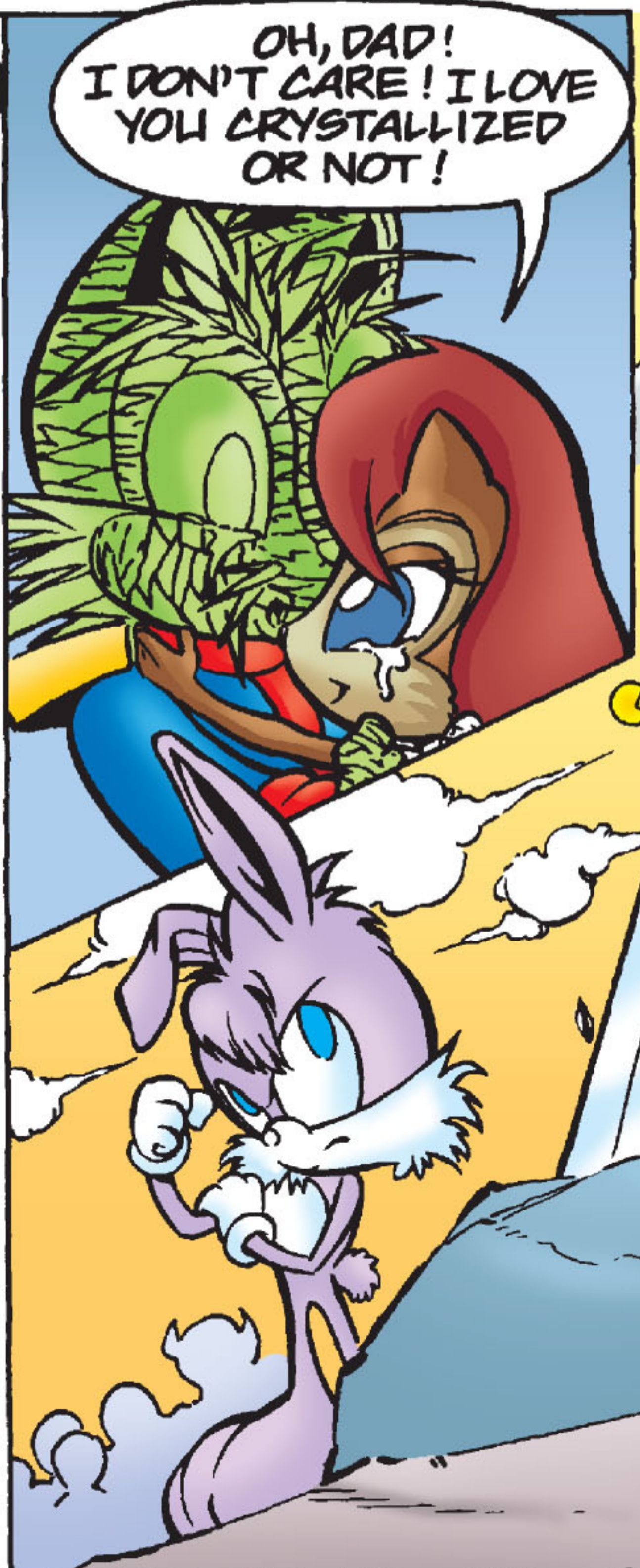
ON YOUR FEET, LAD!
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!
THE KINGDOM OF ACORN IS ONCE
MORE IN YOUR DEBT!

DAD!
OH, DAD, IS
IT REALLY
YOU?

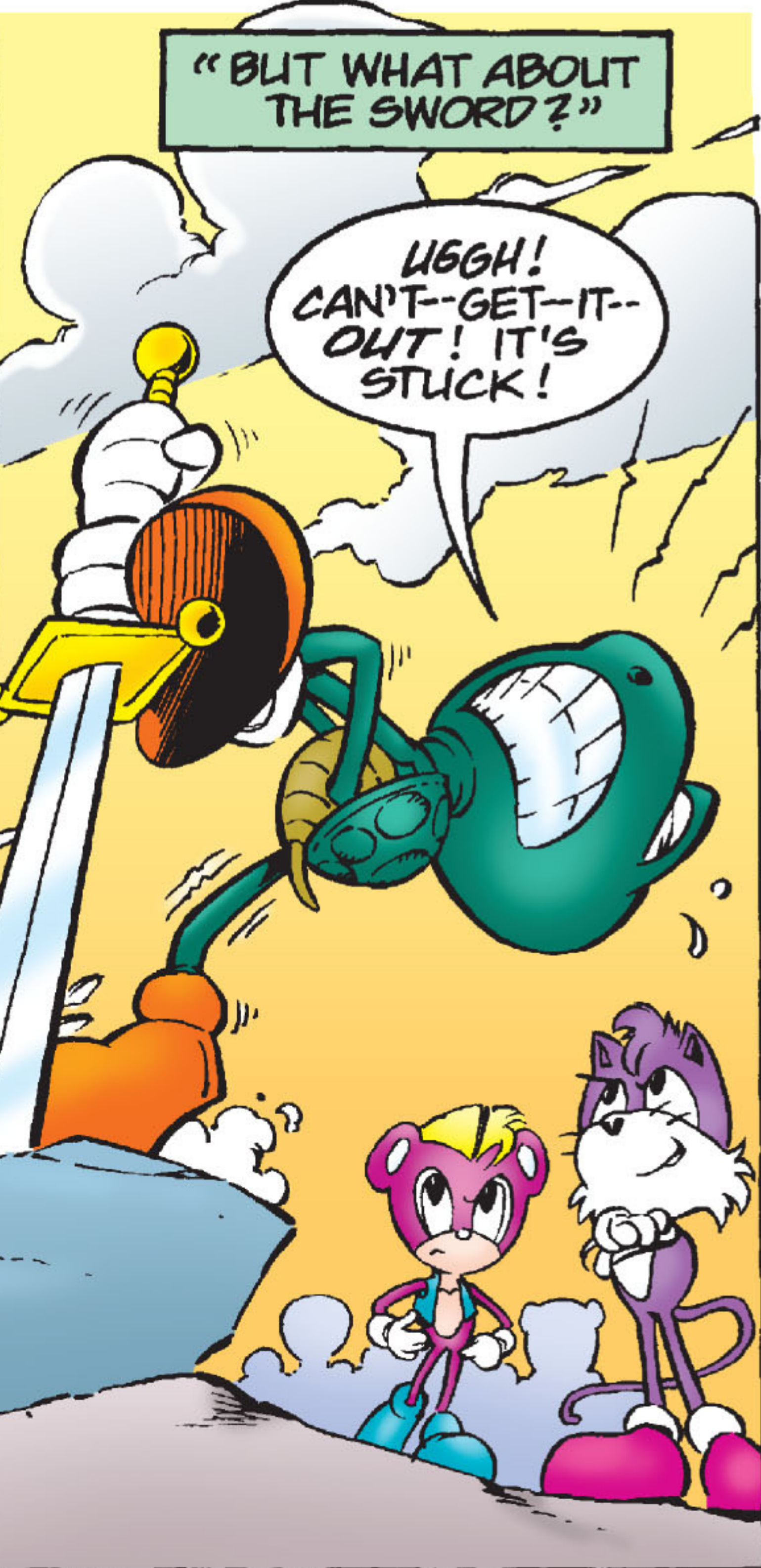


YES, PRINCESS, IXIS NAUGUS'
CORRUPTING SPIRIT HAS LEFT
ME FOR GOOD!

AND THOUGH THE SWORD
OF ACORNS SAVED BOTH SONIC
AND MYSELF FROM CERTAIN
DEATH, I FEAR THE PRICE I
MUST PAY IS PERMANENT
CRYSTALLIZATION!



OH, DAD!
I DON'T CARE! I LOVE
YOU CRYSTALLIZED
OR NOT!



"BUT WHAT ABOUT
THE SWORD?"

UGGH!
CAN'T-GET-IT-
OUT! IT'S
STUCK!

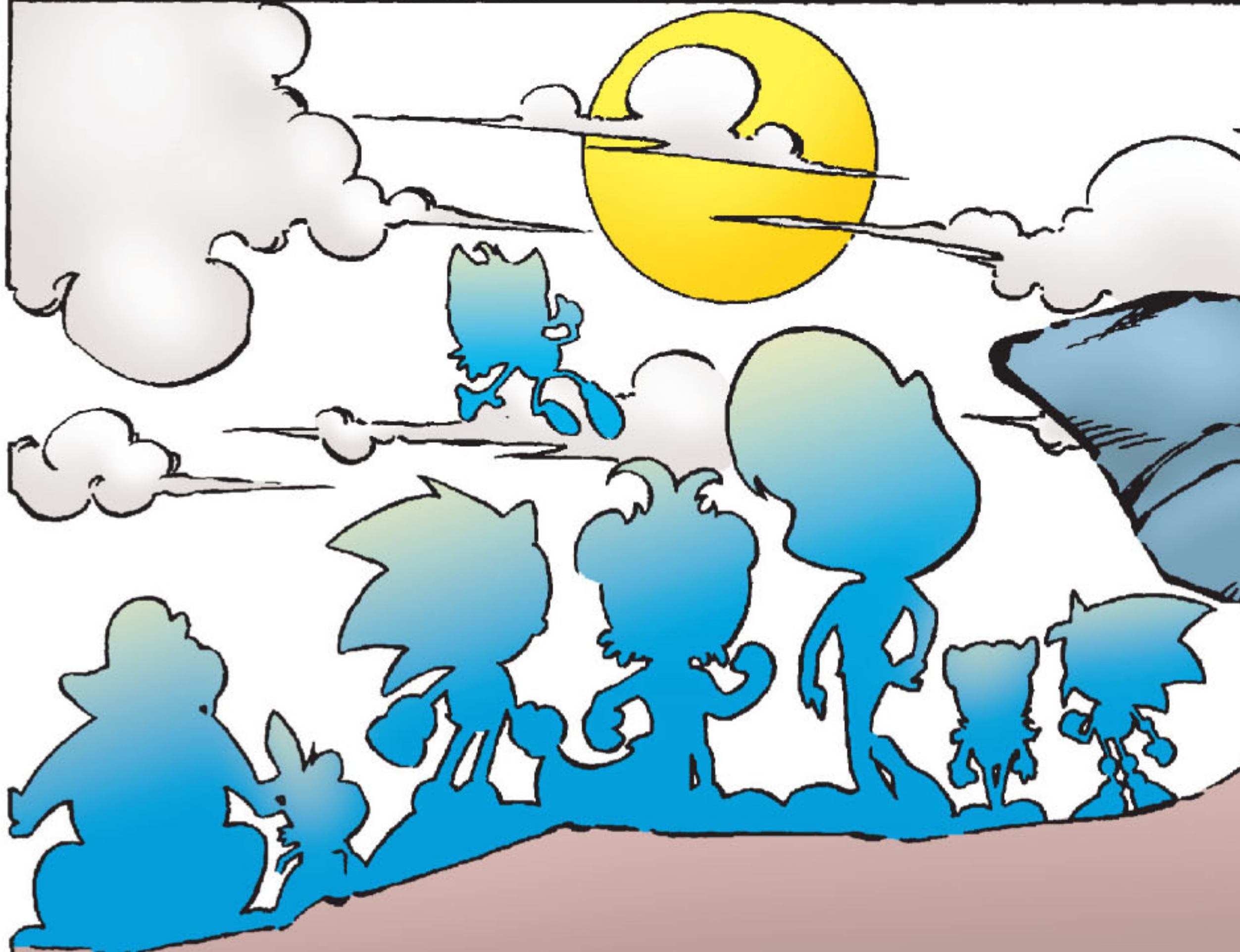


STAND
ASIDE!

K-SHINK!

FWAASH!

AND WHEN THE LIGHT GIVEN
OFF FROM THE MAGICAL RELIC
FADES, THE RULER STANDS
RESTORED, A CREATURE OF
FLESH AND BLOOD!



ON HIS HEAD RESTS THE REAL
CROWN OF ACORNS...RESTORED
FROM THE "HALL OF LIMBO!"
A PLACE THAT WAS NEVER TOO
FAR FROM THE KING--FOR THE
"HALL OF LIMBO" WAS IN HIS
OWN MIND ALL ALONG!

The End

BECAUSE *YOU* DEMANDED IT!...

the FORTY FATHOMS IN EEL of FREEDOM FIGHTERS FORTUNE

ROLL CALL

RAY

BIVALVE

BOTTLENOSE

P.B. JELLYFISH

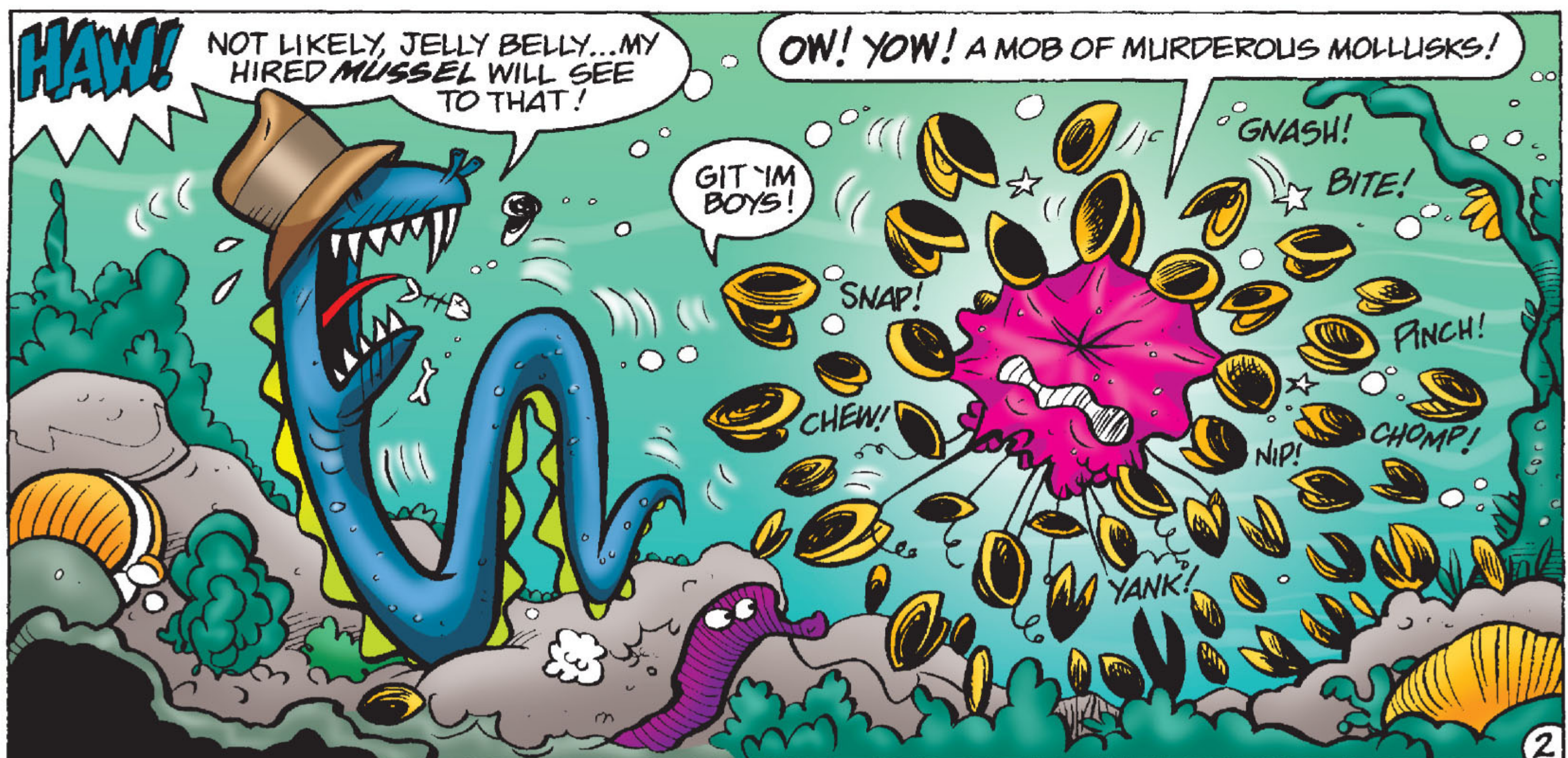
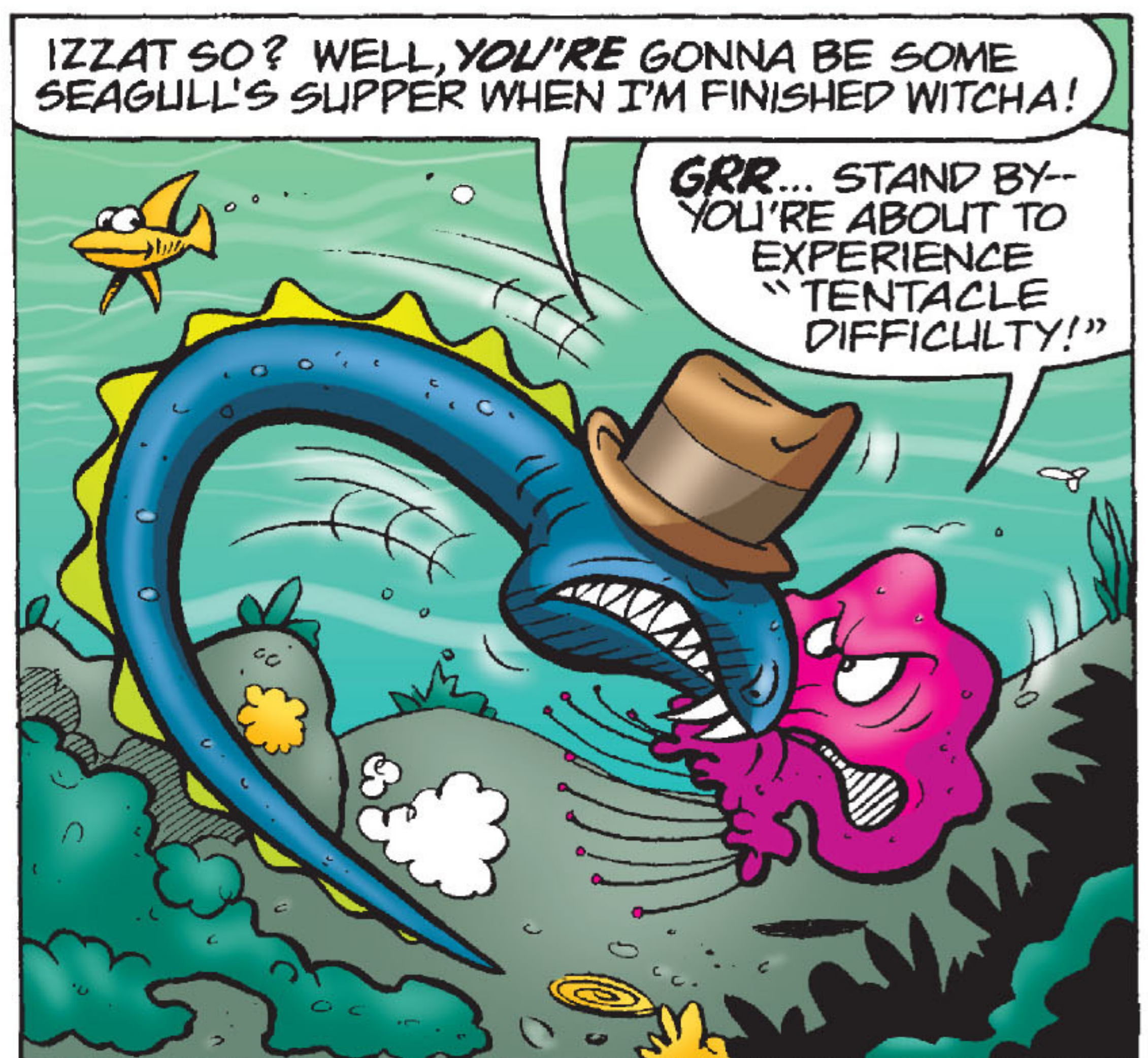
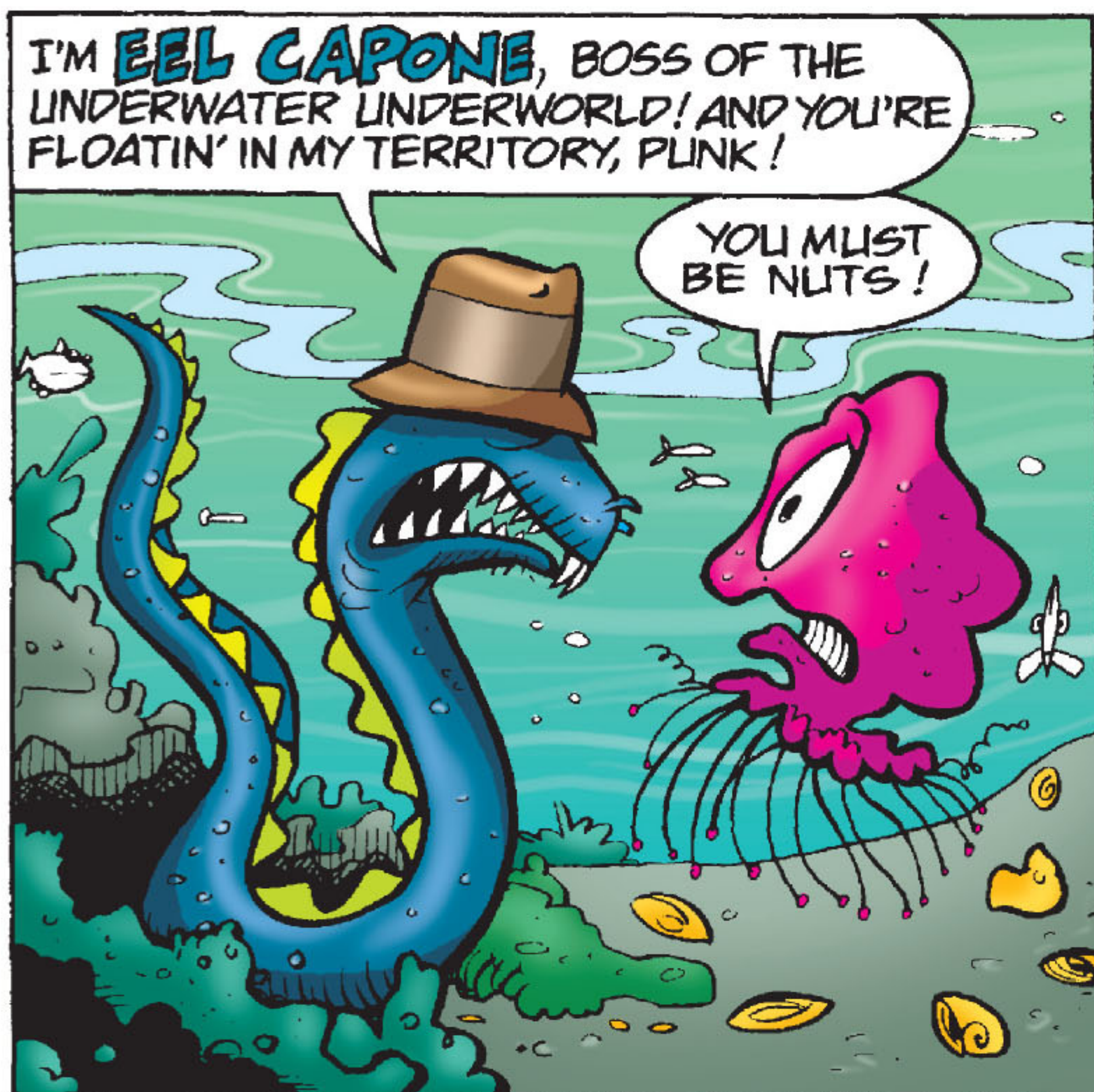
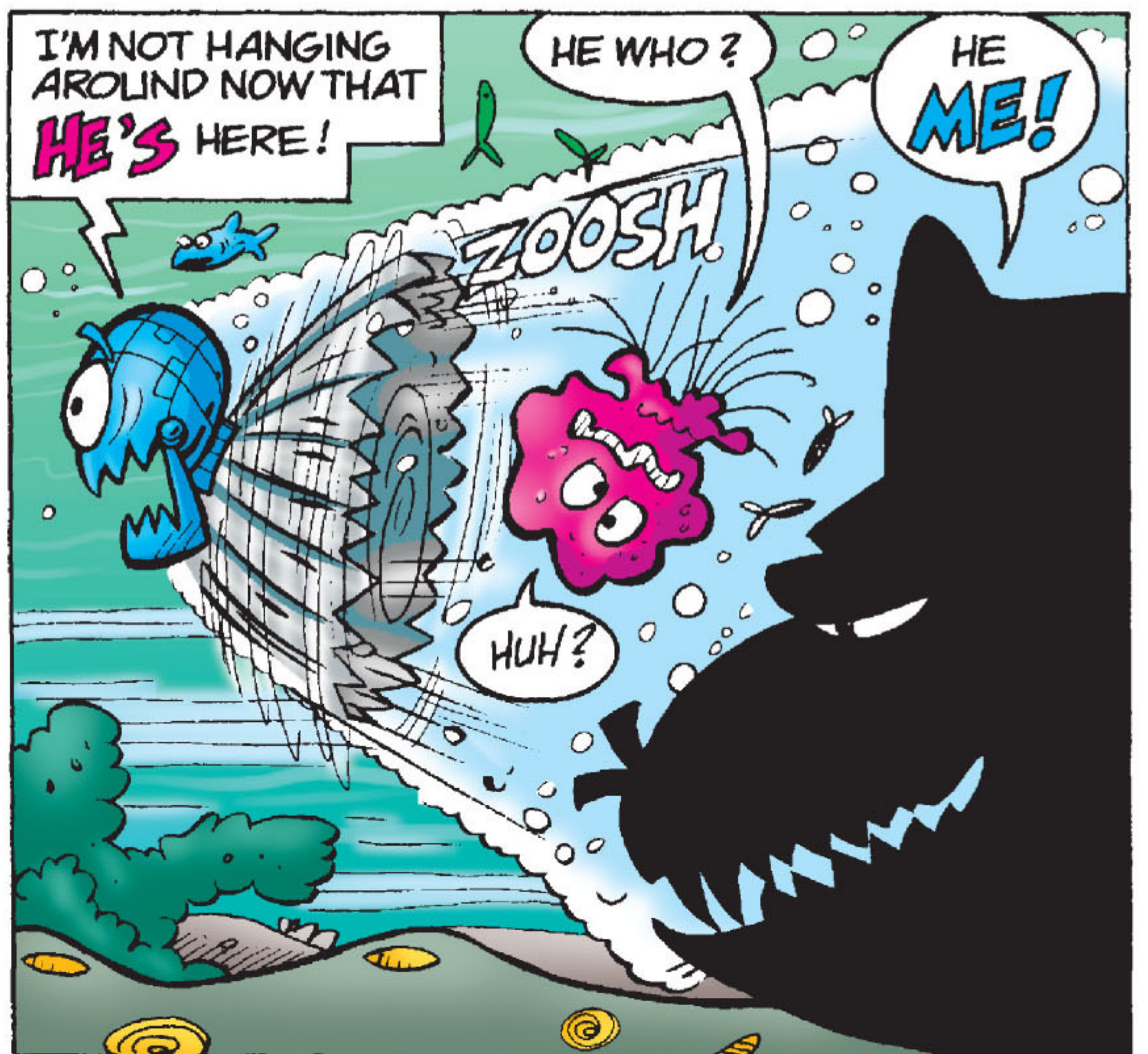
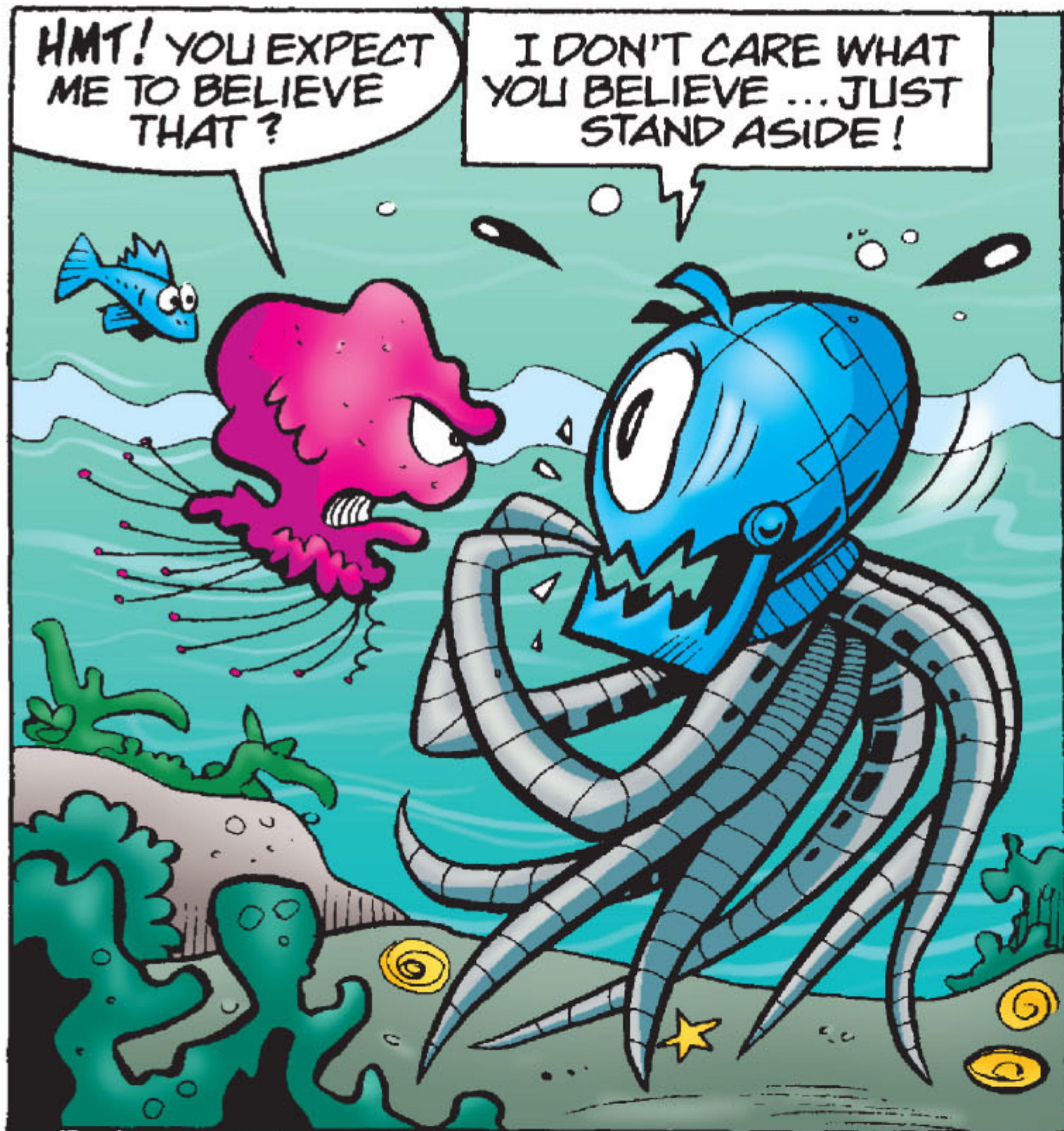
HEY! I'D KNOW THAT SLIMY SILHOUETTE ANYWHERE...

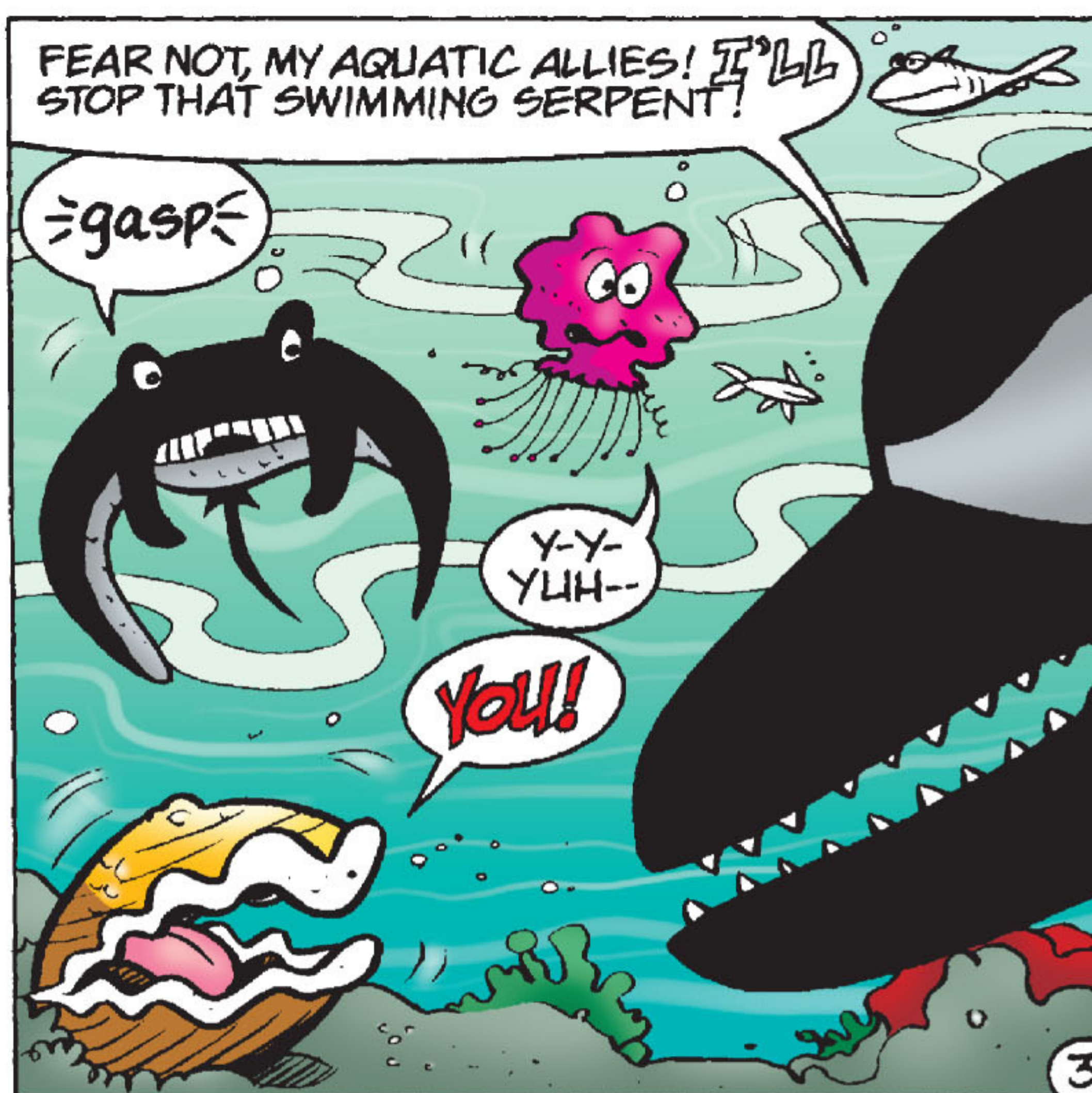
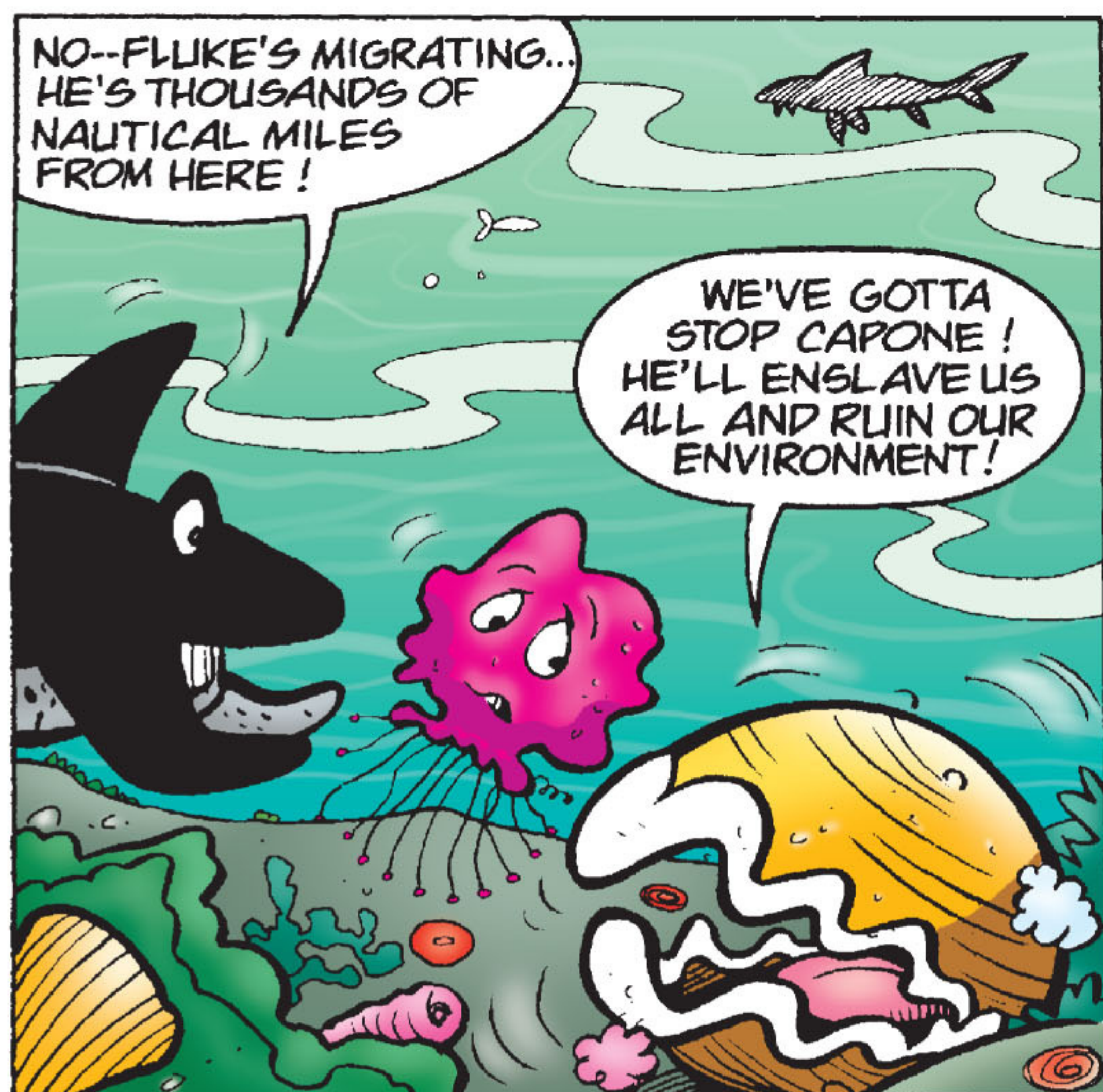
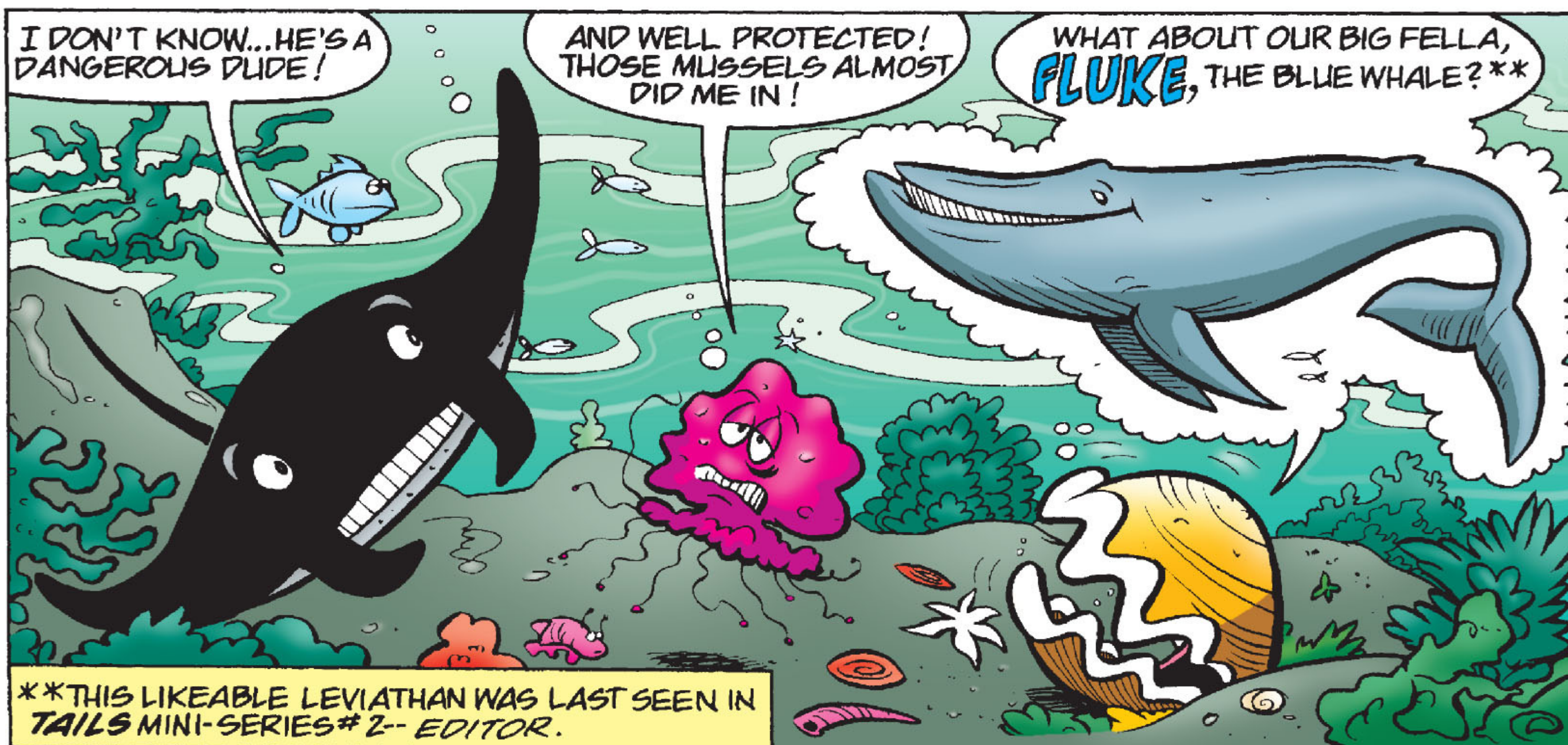
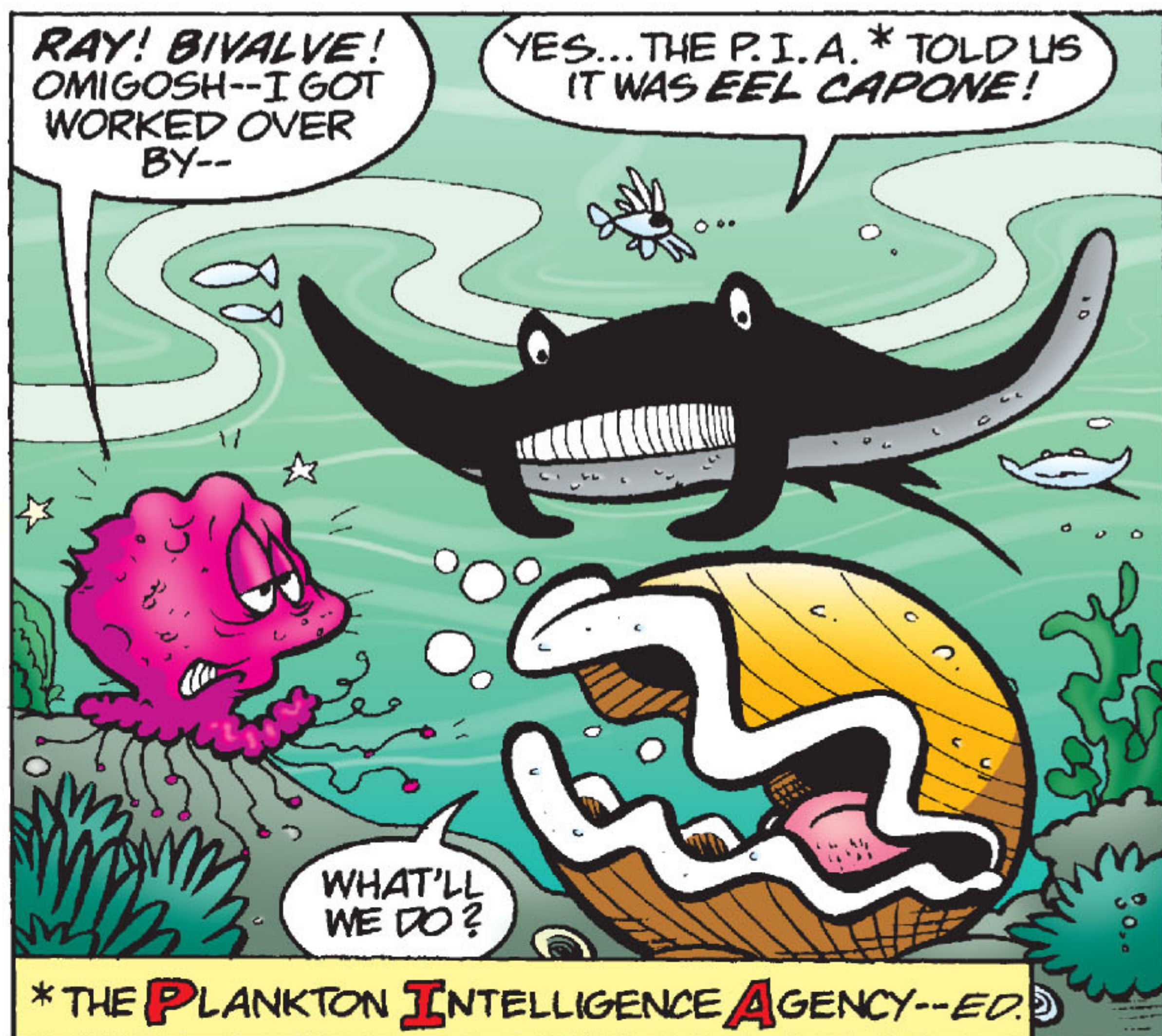
...IT'S OUR OLD ENEMY, OCTOBOT!*

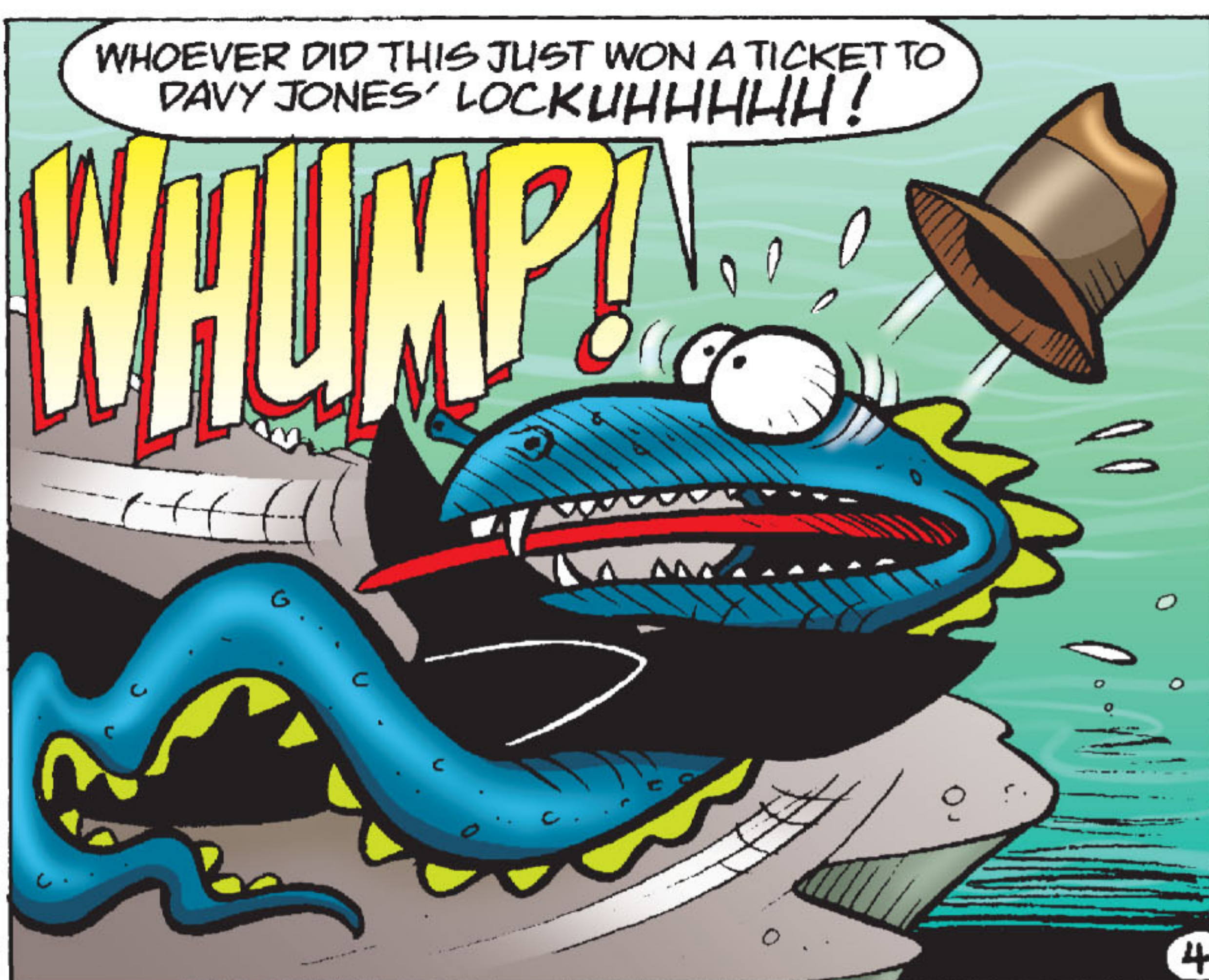
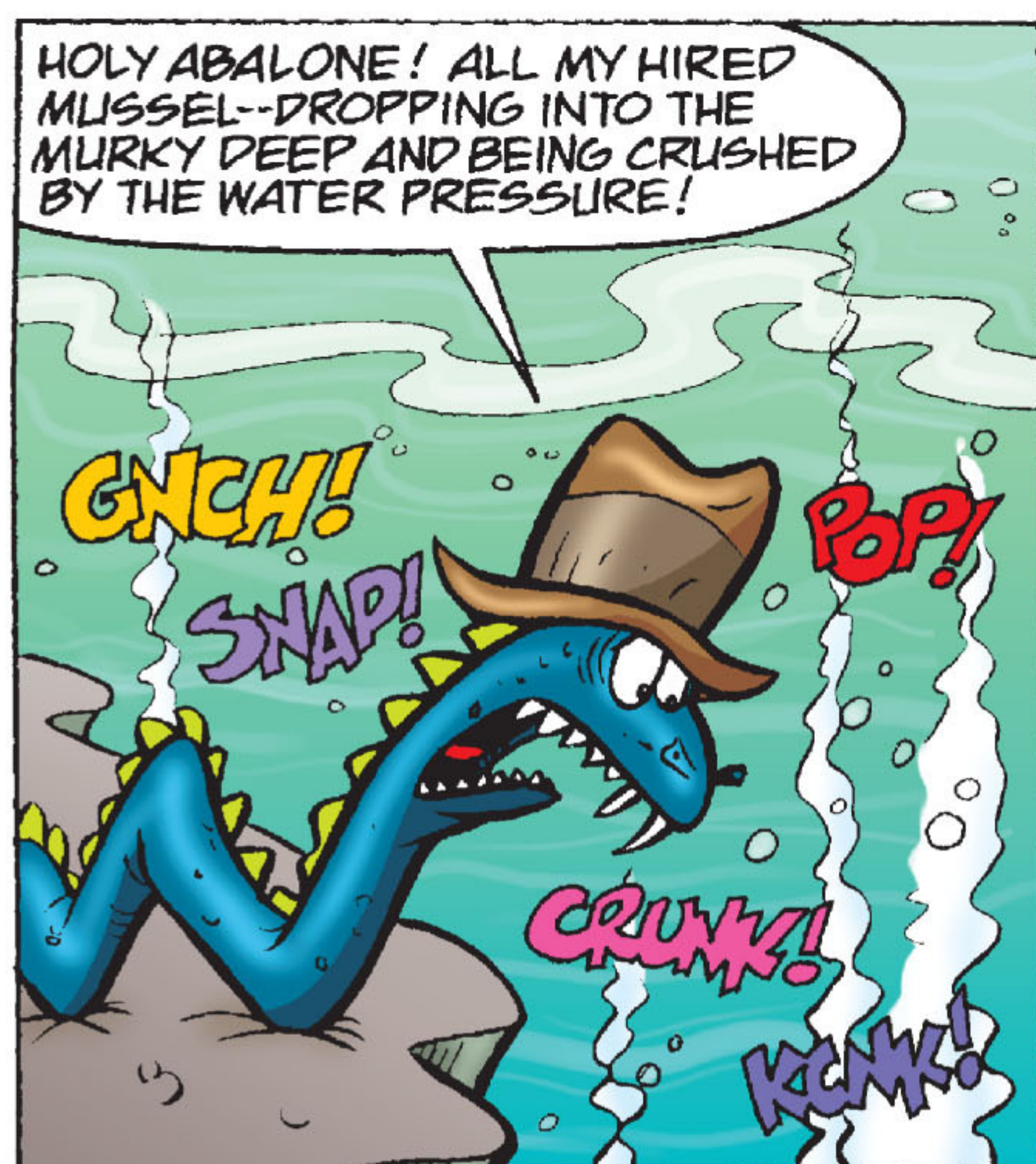
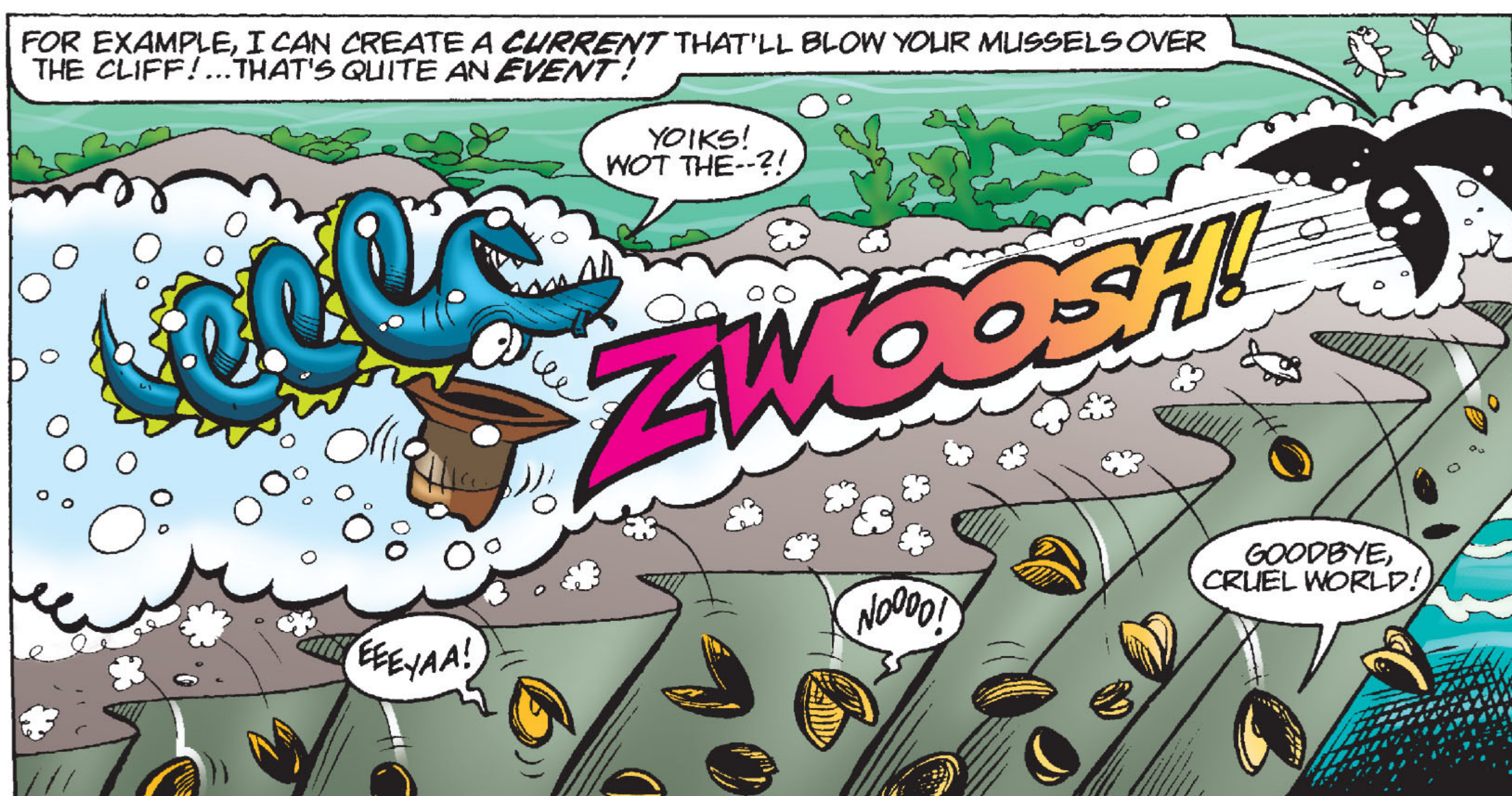
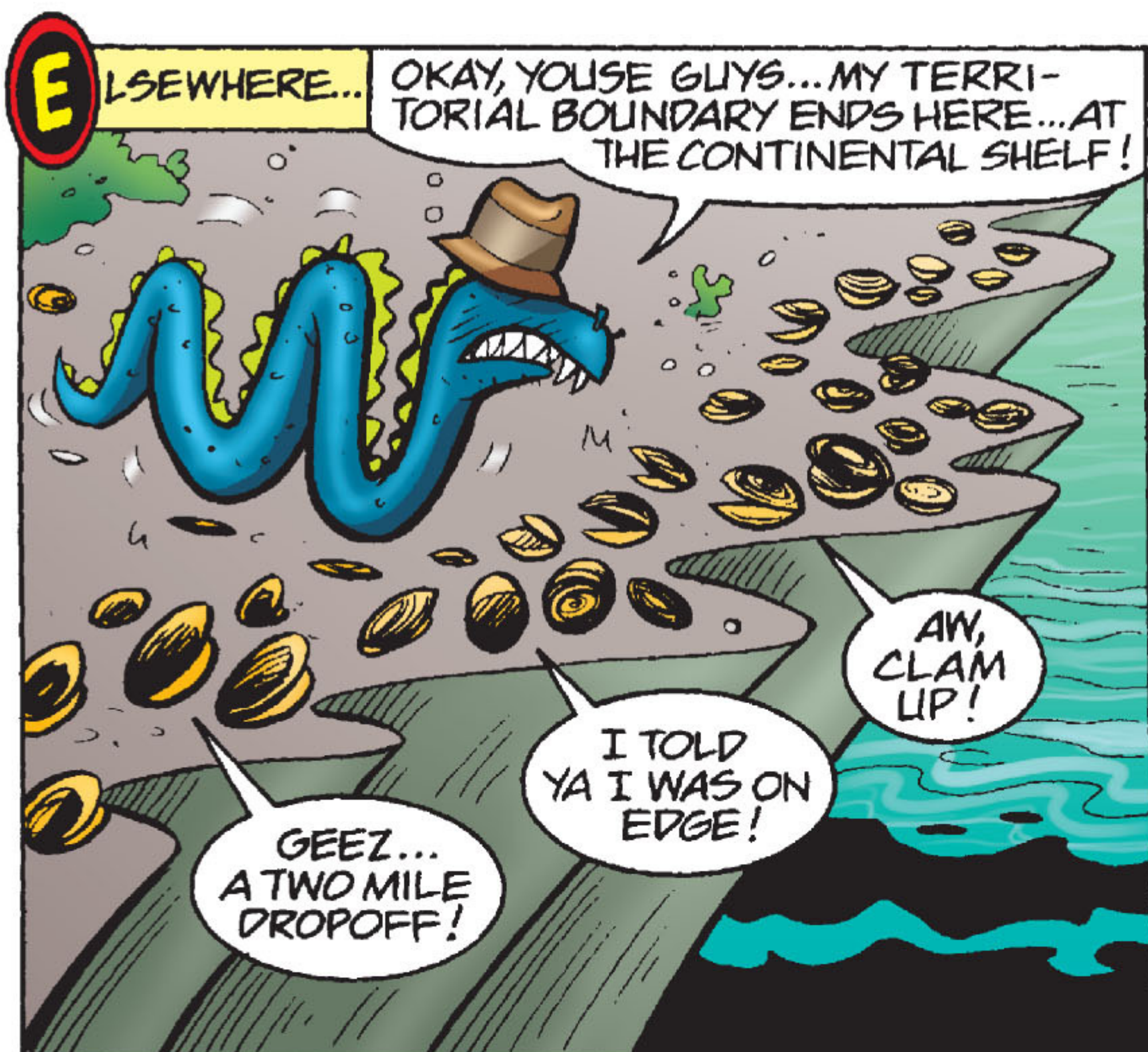
* HEY, IT'S OCTOBOT! SONIC SELECT 1 SAYS HI -- AND SO DOES THE TAILS MINISERIES, COMING SOON TO A SELECT ISSUE NEAR YOU! - THE MANAGEMENT

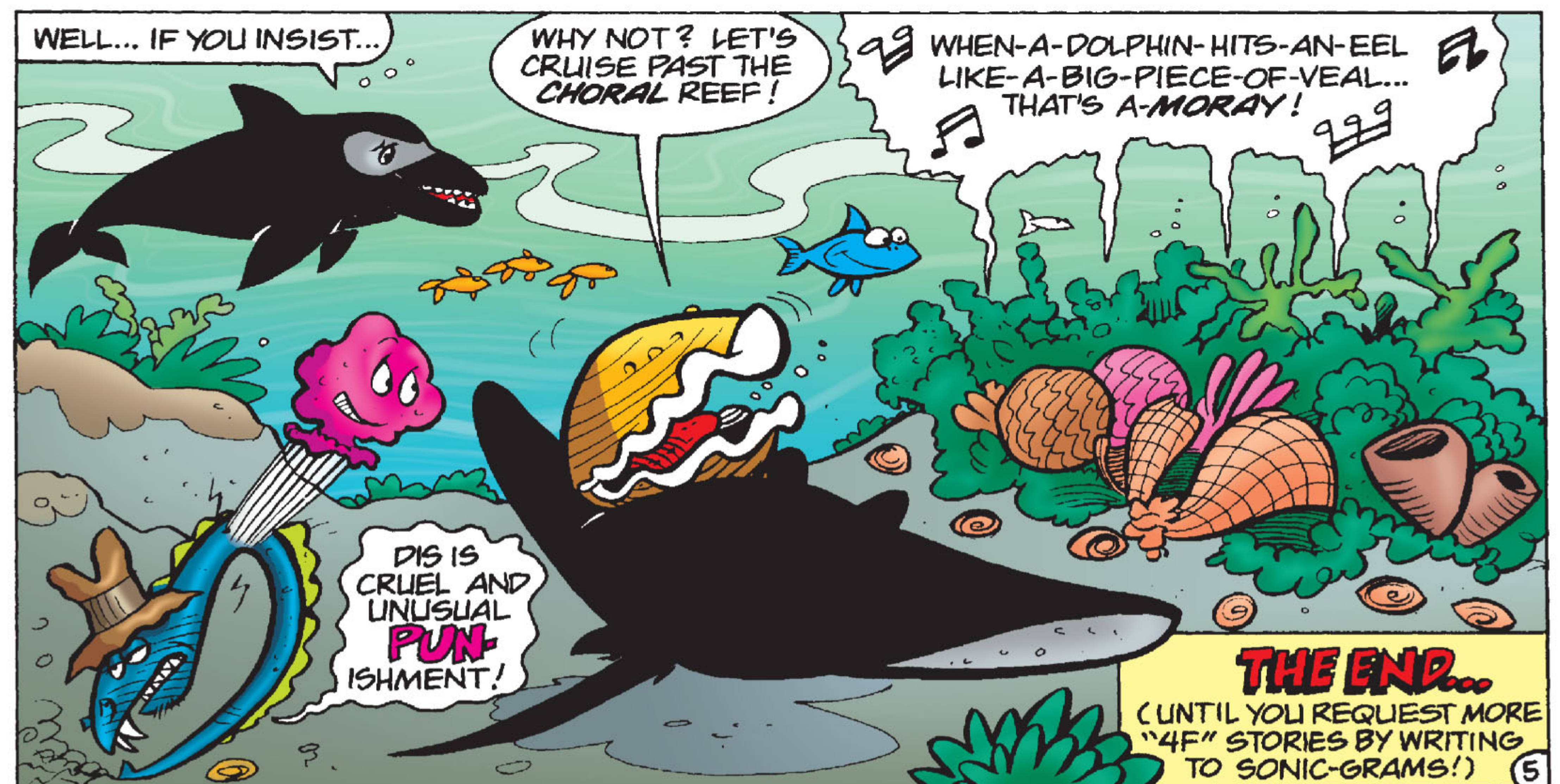
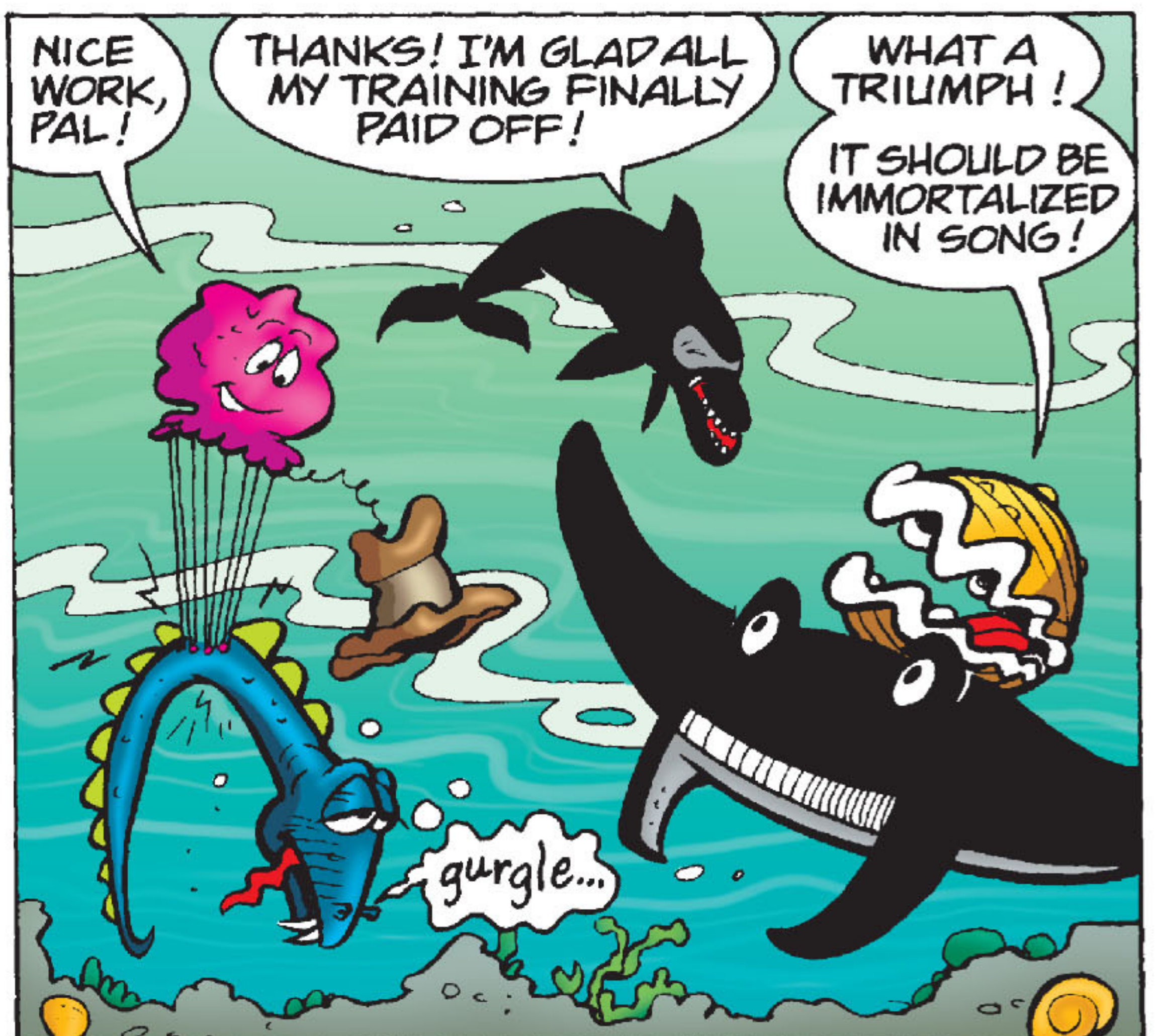
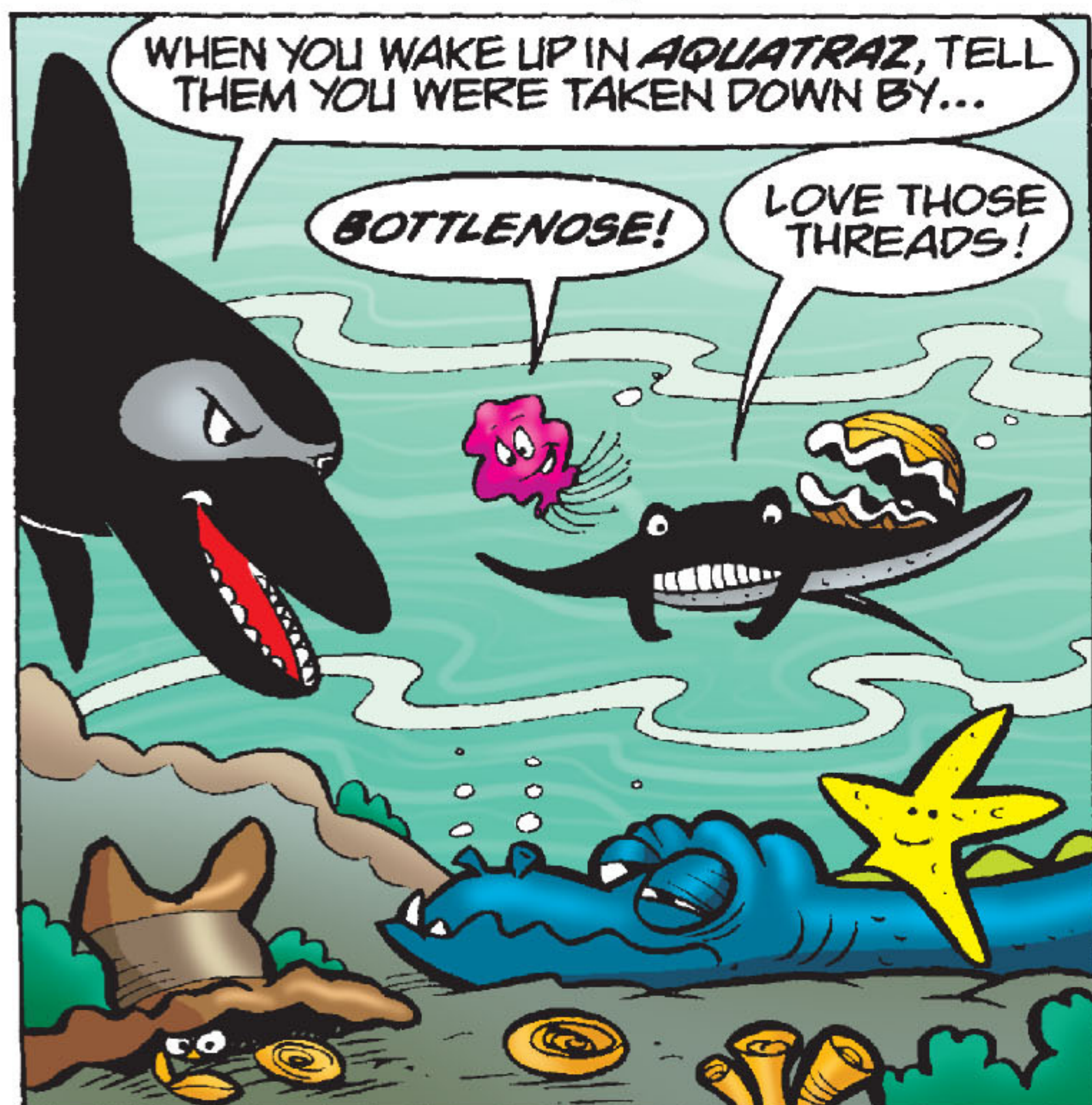
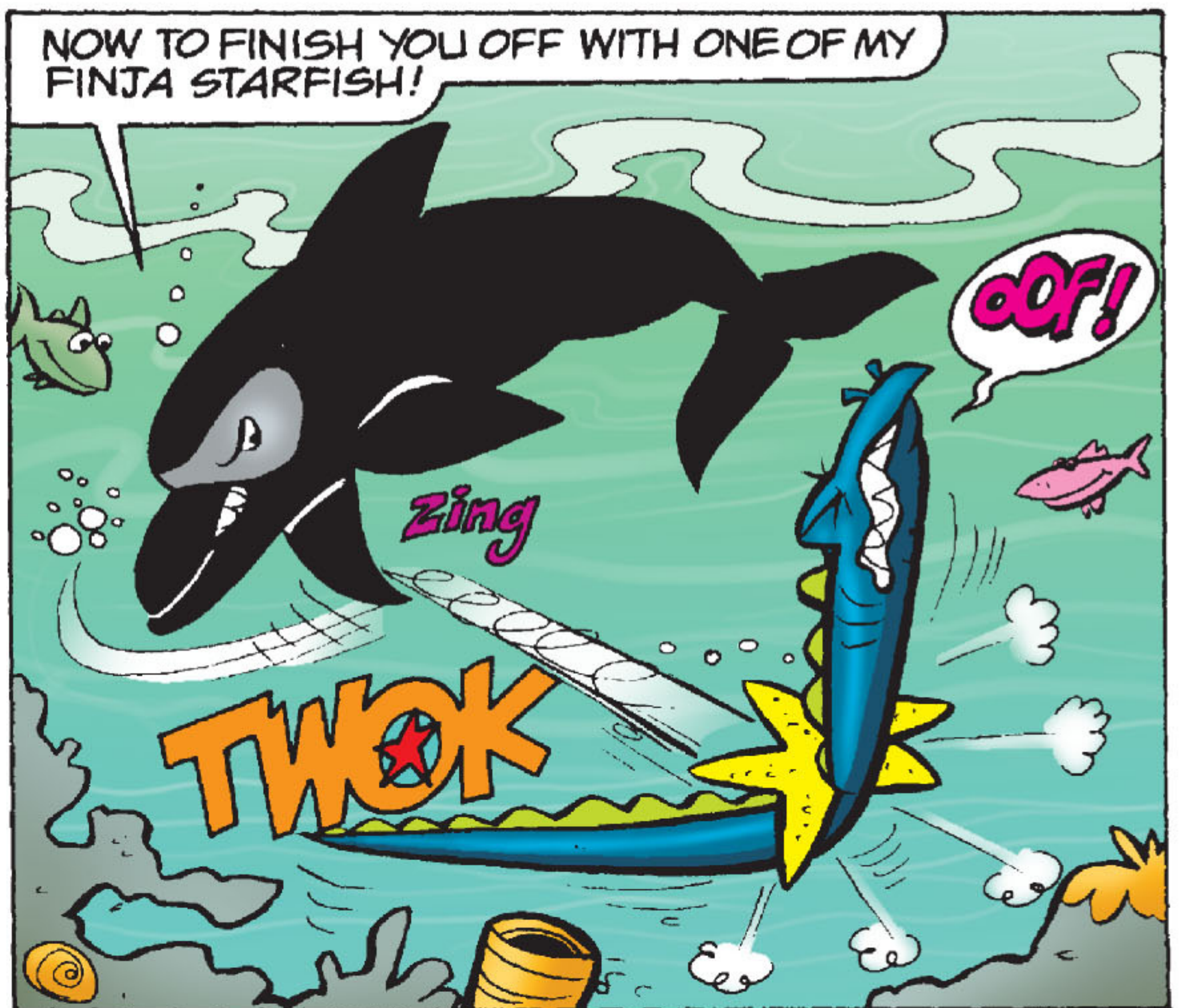
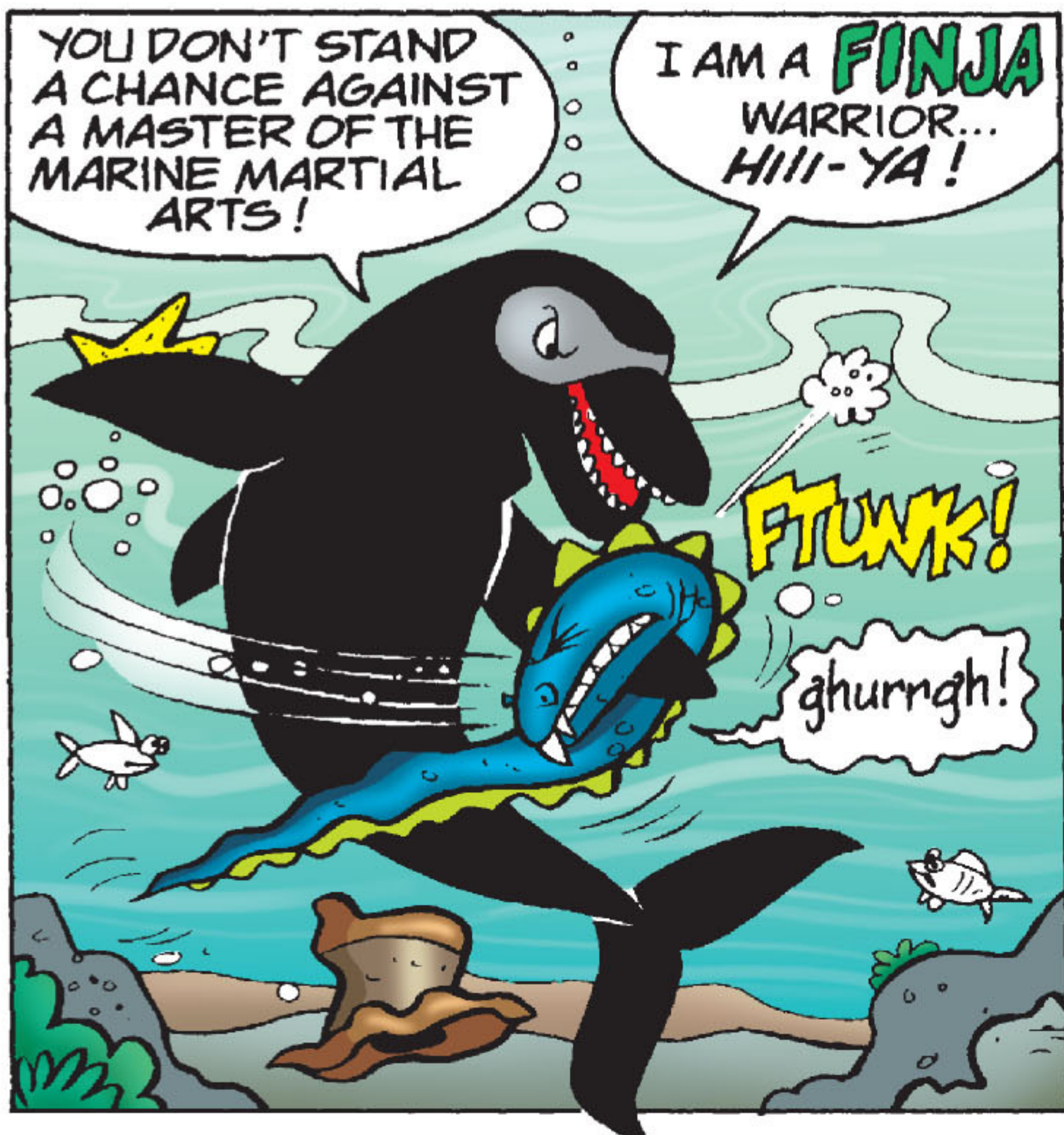
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THESE WATERS, EIGHT-BALL? CARRYING OUT MORE OF ROBOTNIK'S EVIL PLANS?

OH! P.B. JELLYFISH! DON'T STING ME... I'M JUST PASSING THROUGH ON MY WAY OUT OF HERE!









SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™

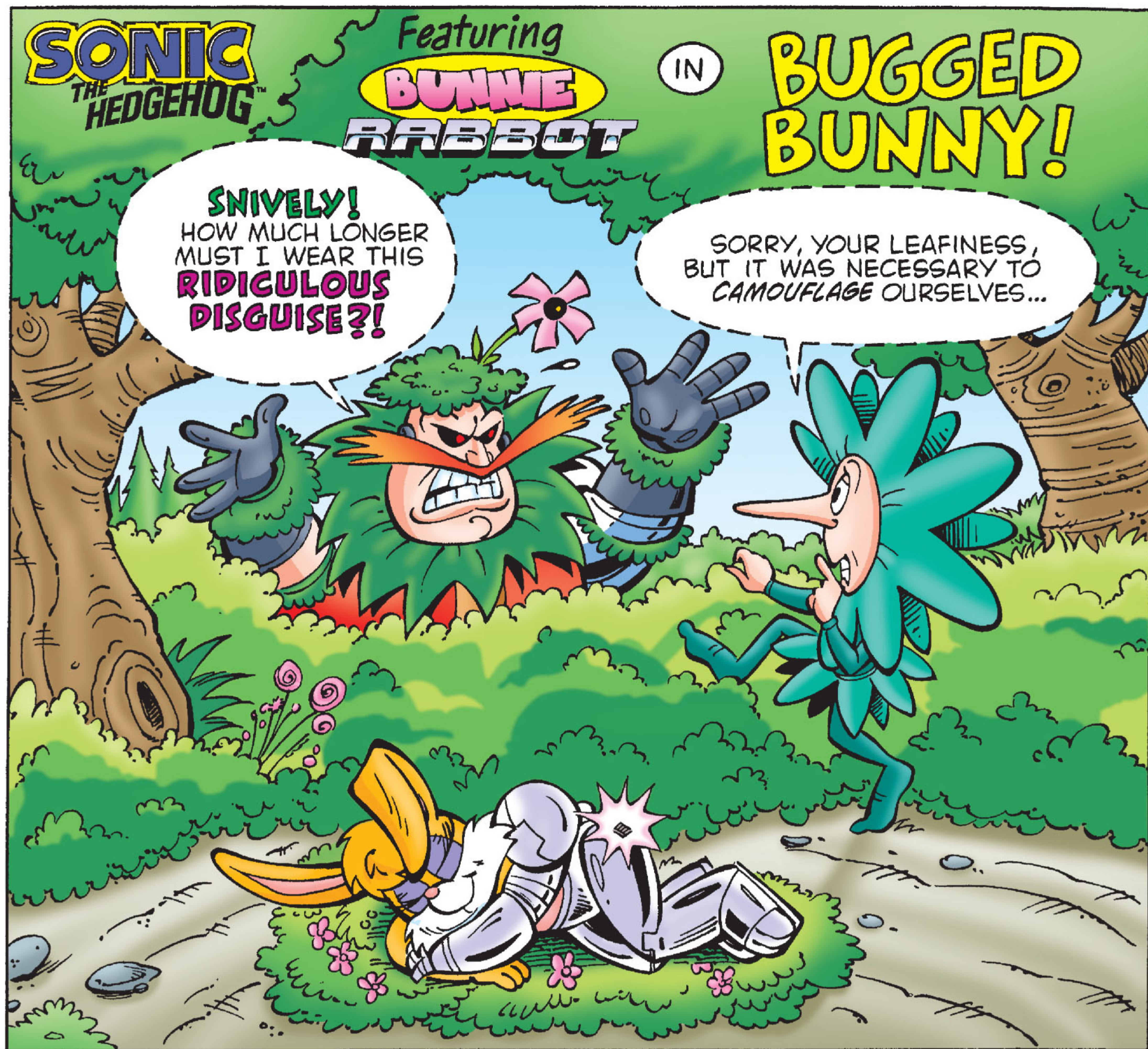
Featuring
BUNNIE
RABBIT

IN

BUGGED BUNNY!

SNIVELY!
HOW MUCH LONGER
MUST I WEAR THIS
RIDICULOUS
DISGUISE?!

SORRY, YOUR LEAFINESS,
BUT IT WAS NECESSARY TO
CAMOUFLAGE OURSELVES...

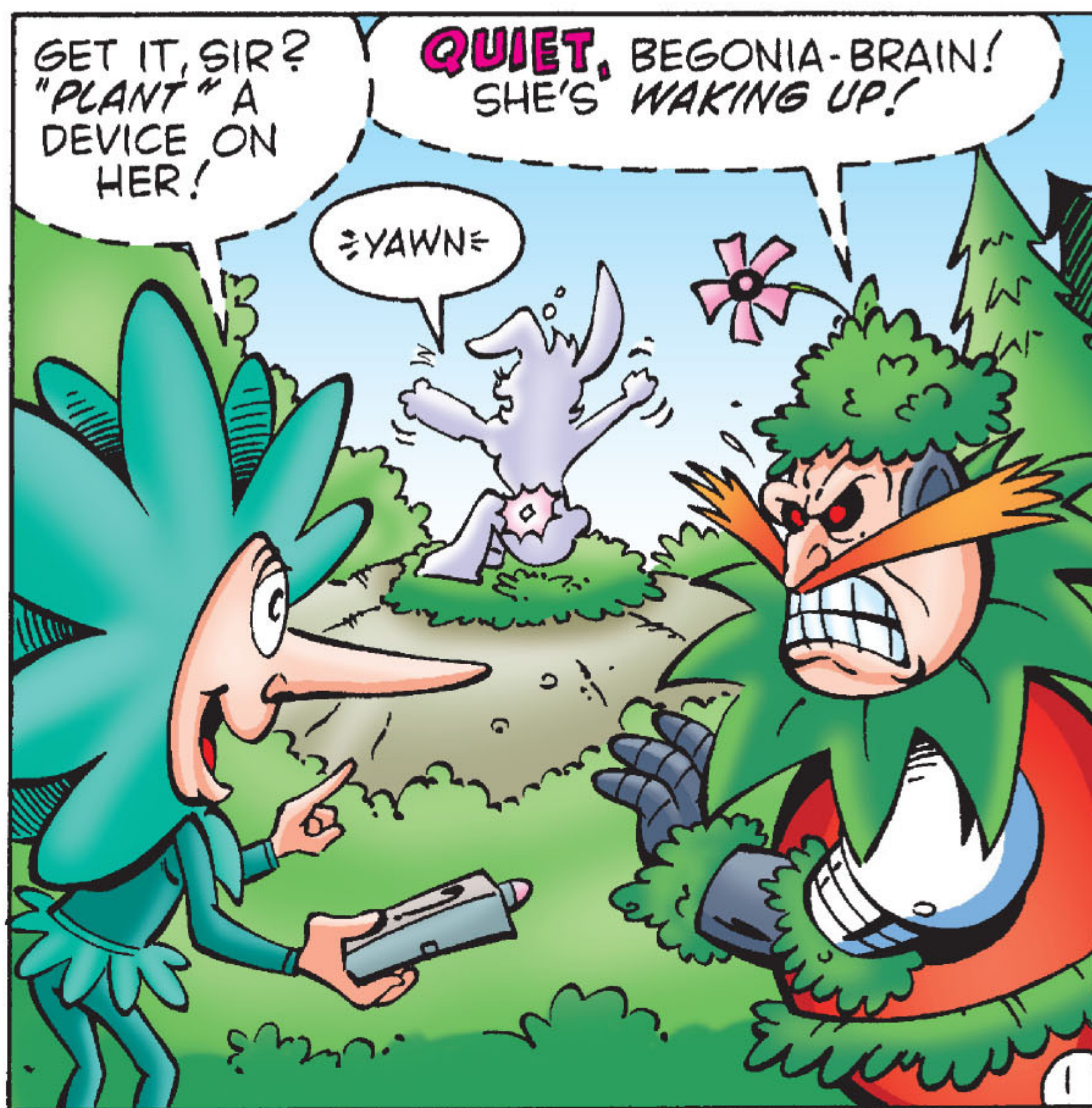
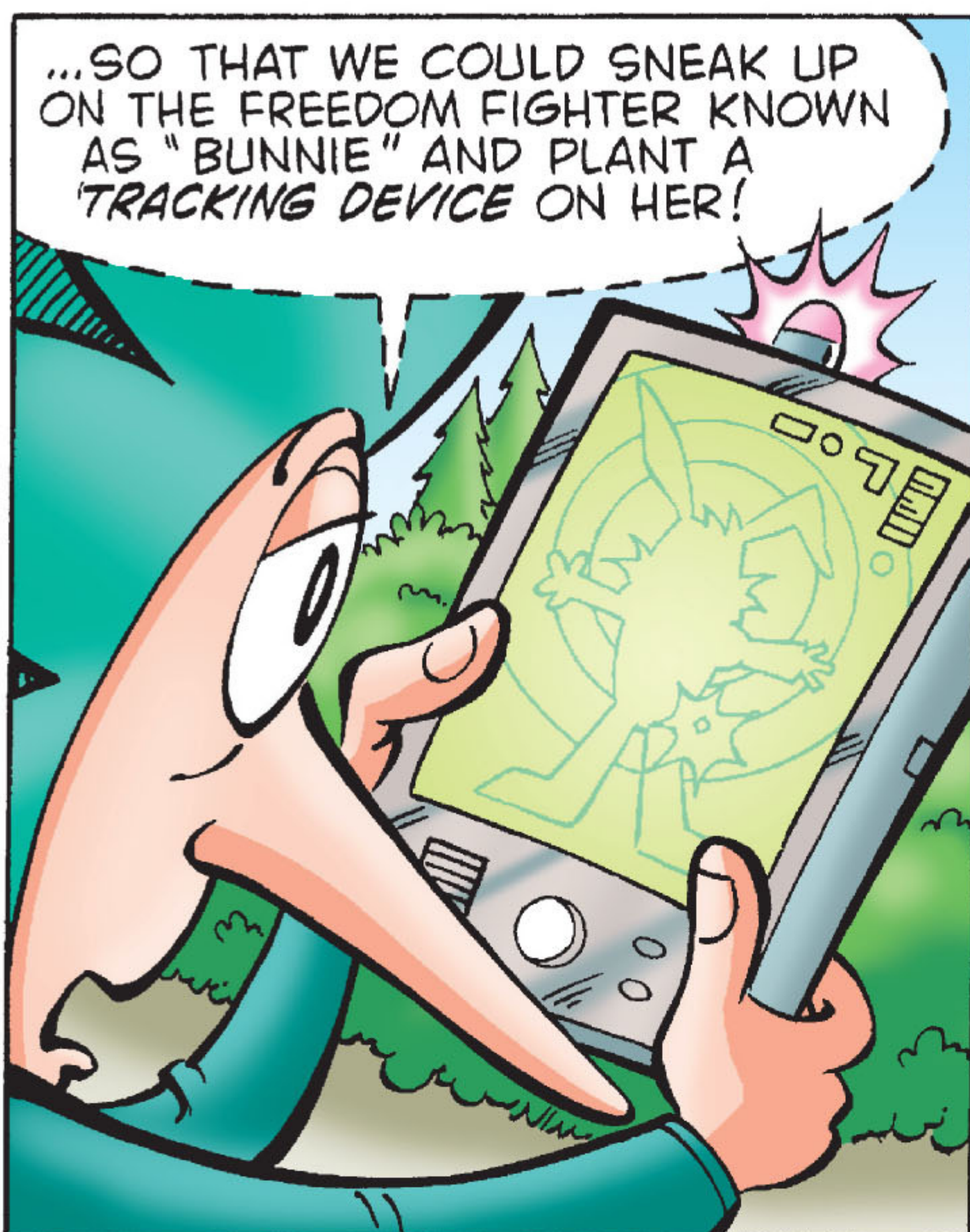


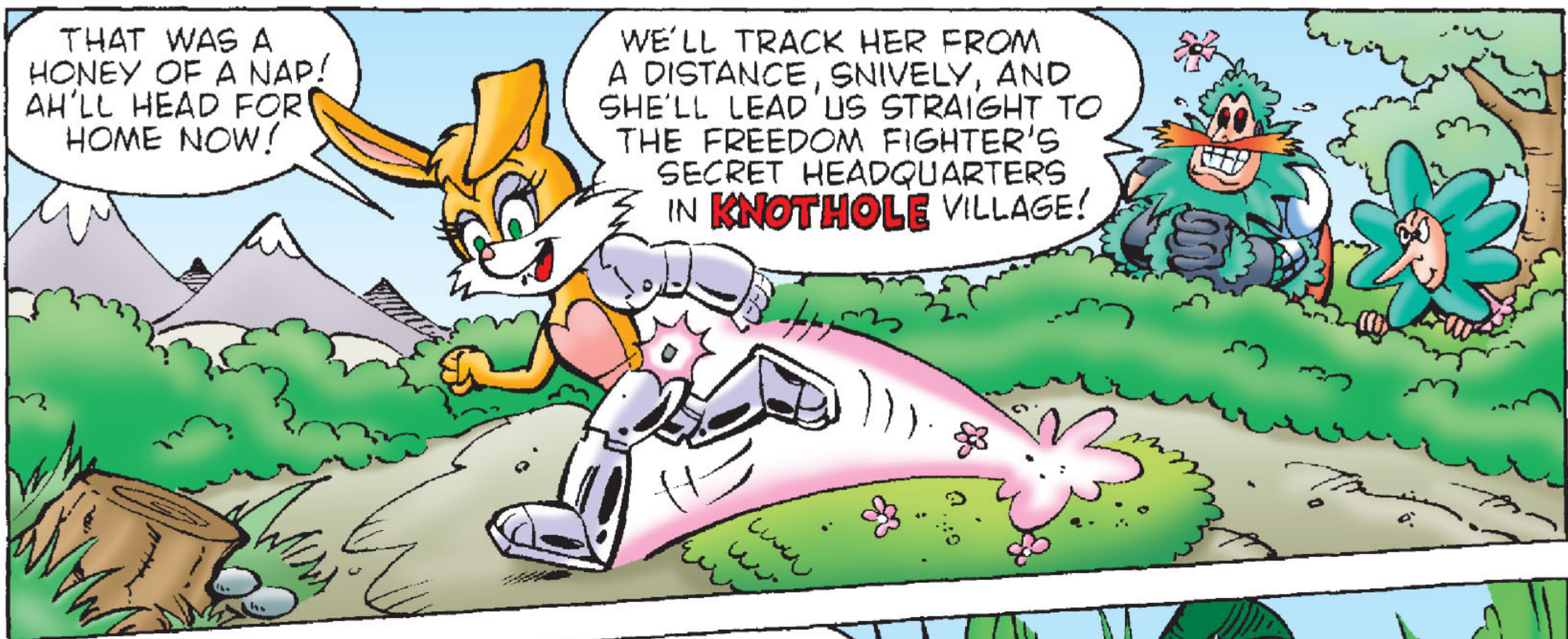
...SO THAT WE COULD SNEAK UP
ON THE FREEDOM FIGHTER KNOWN
AS "BUNNIE" AND PLANT A
TRACKING DEVICE ON HER!

GET IT, SIR?
"PLANT" A
DEVICE ON
HER!

QUIET, BEGONIA-BRAIN!
SHE'S WAKING UP!

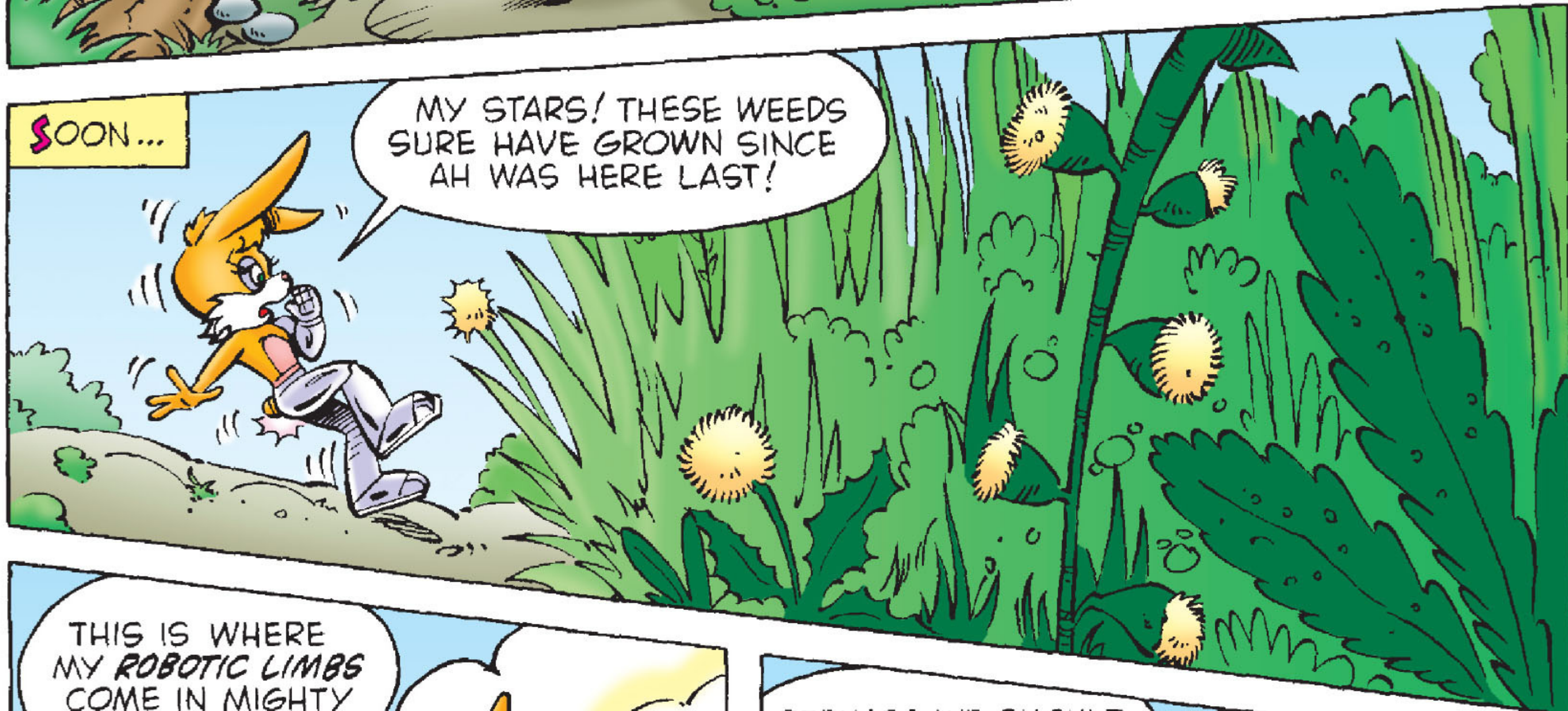
≡YAWN≡





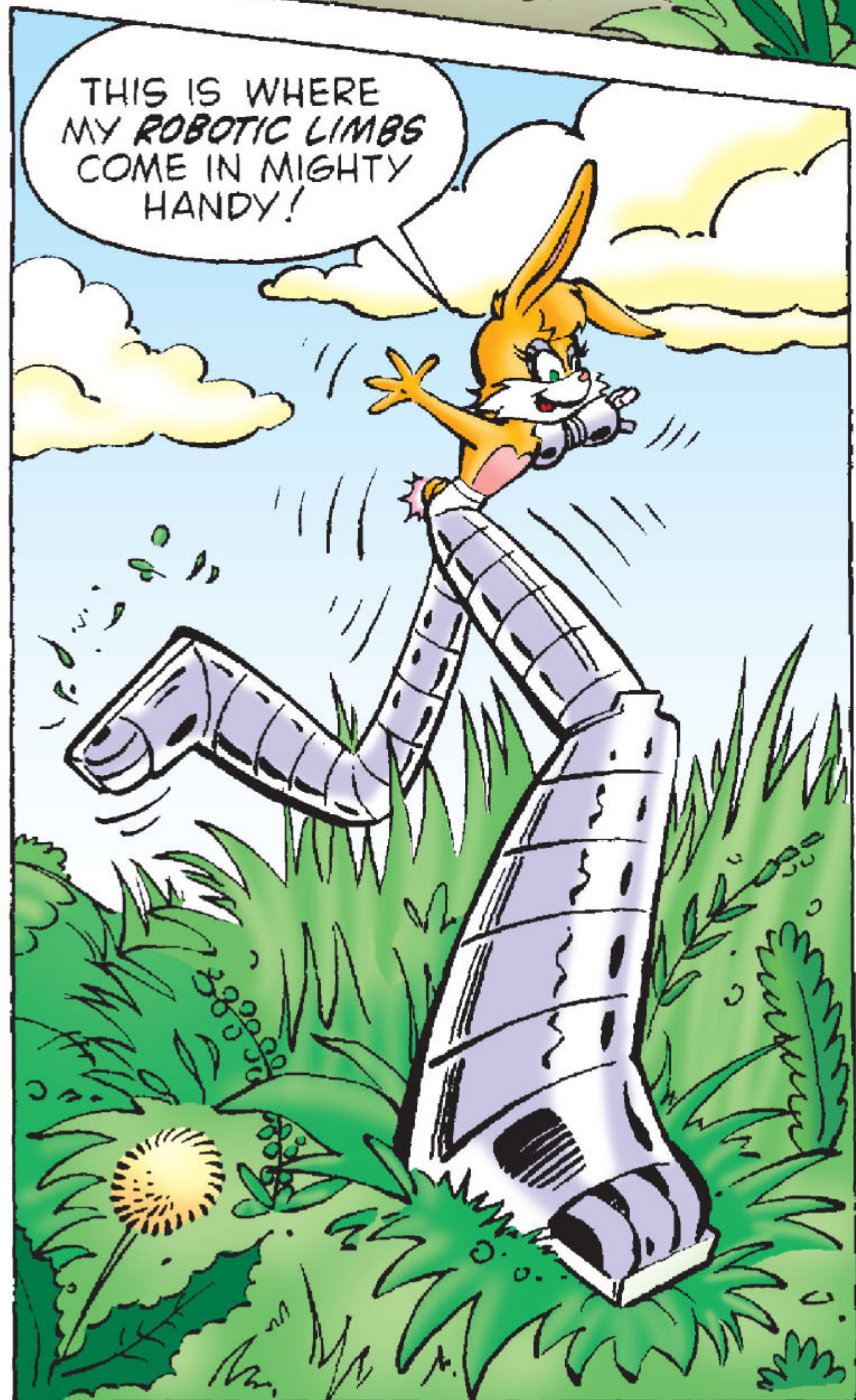
THAT WAS A HONEY OF A NAP! AH'LL HEAD FOR HOME NOW!

WE'LL TRACK HER FROM A DISTANCE, SNIVELY, AND SHE'LL LEAD US STRAIGHT TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTER'S SECRET HEADQUARTERS IN **KNOTHOLE** VILLAGE!



SOON...

MY STARS! THESE WEEDS SURE HAVE GROWN SINCE AH WAS HERE LAST!

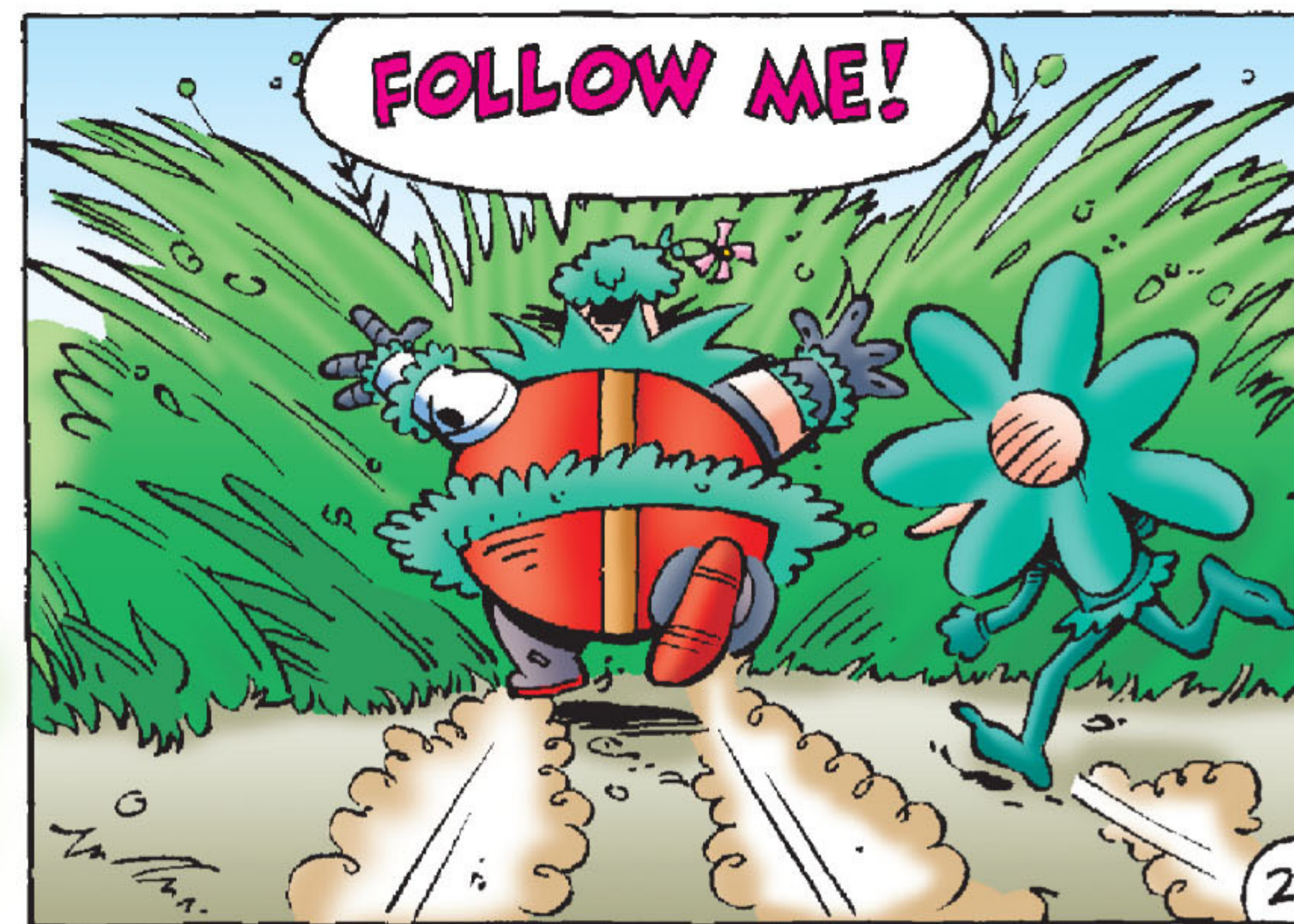


THIS IS WHERE MY **ROBOTIC LIMBS** COME IN MIGHTY HANDY!

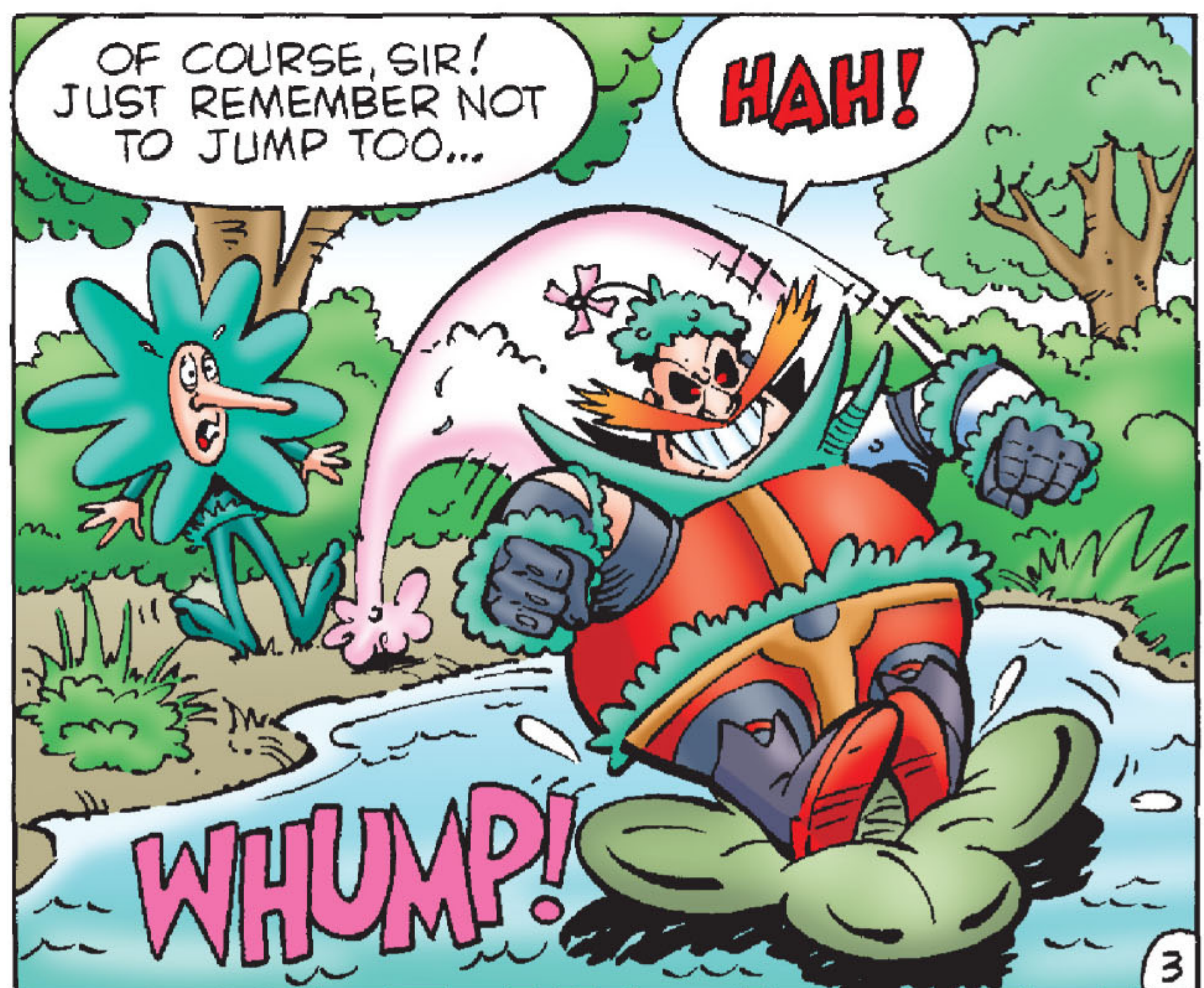
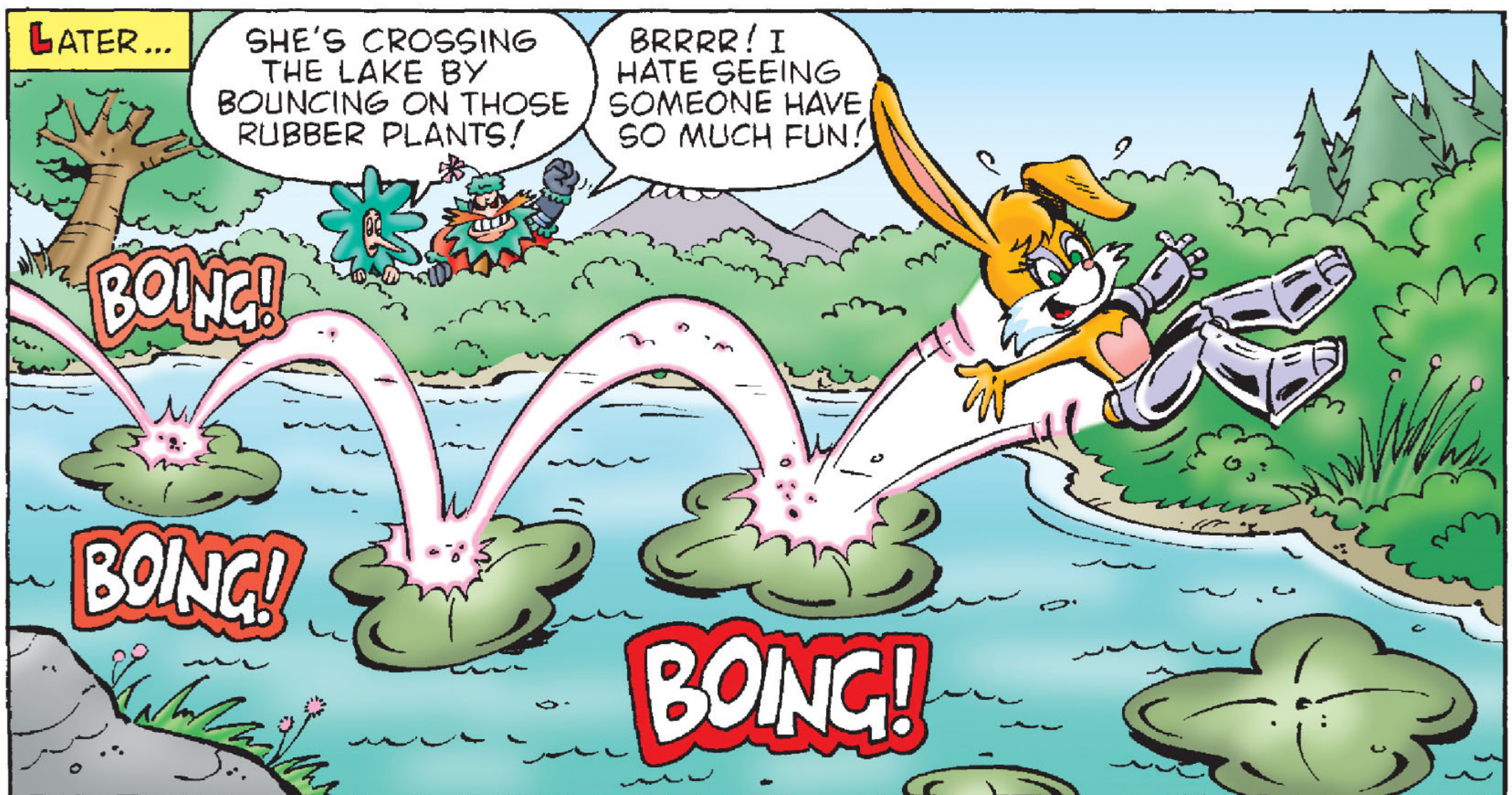
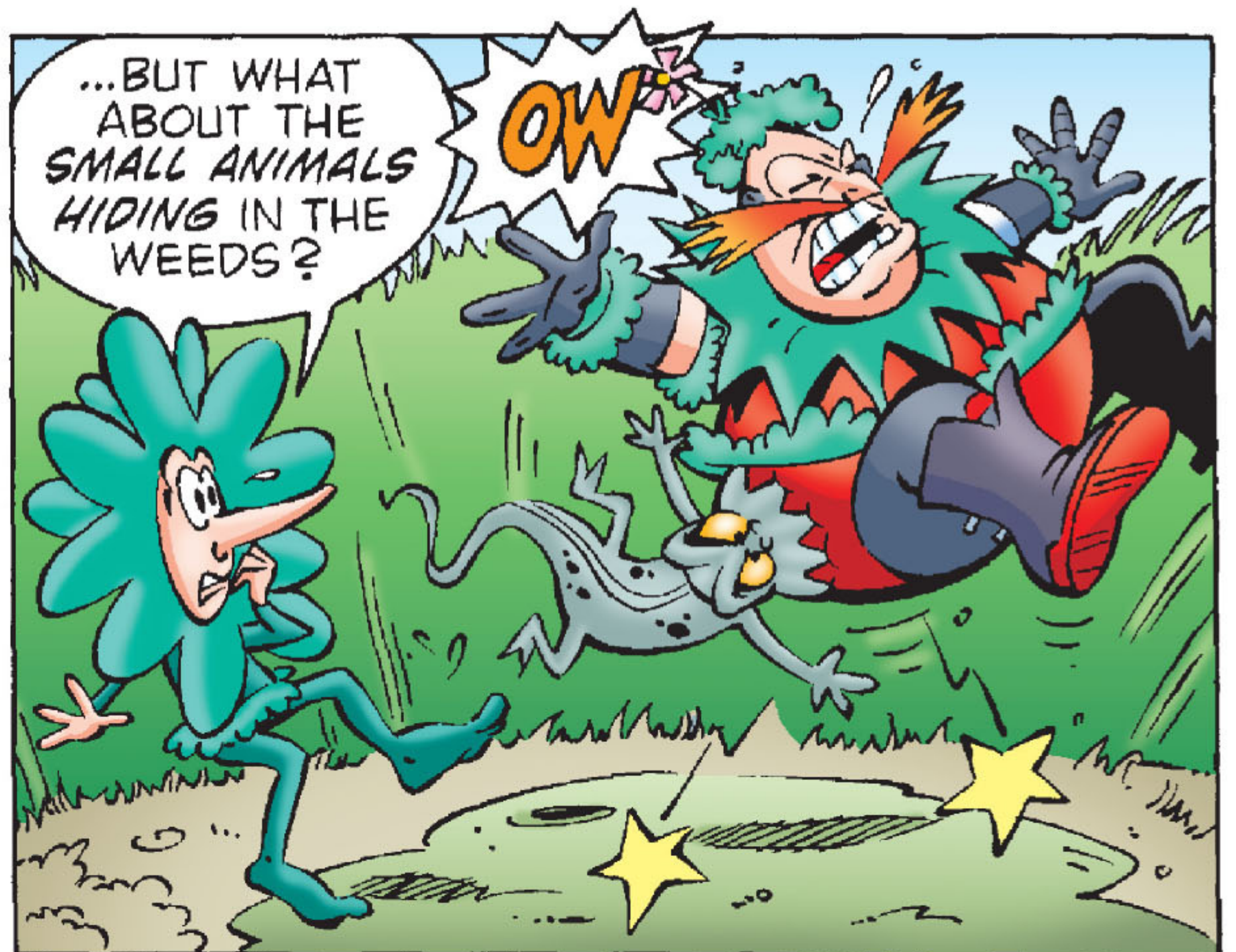


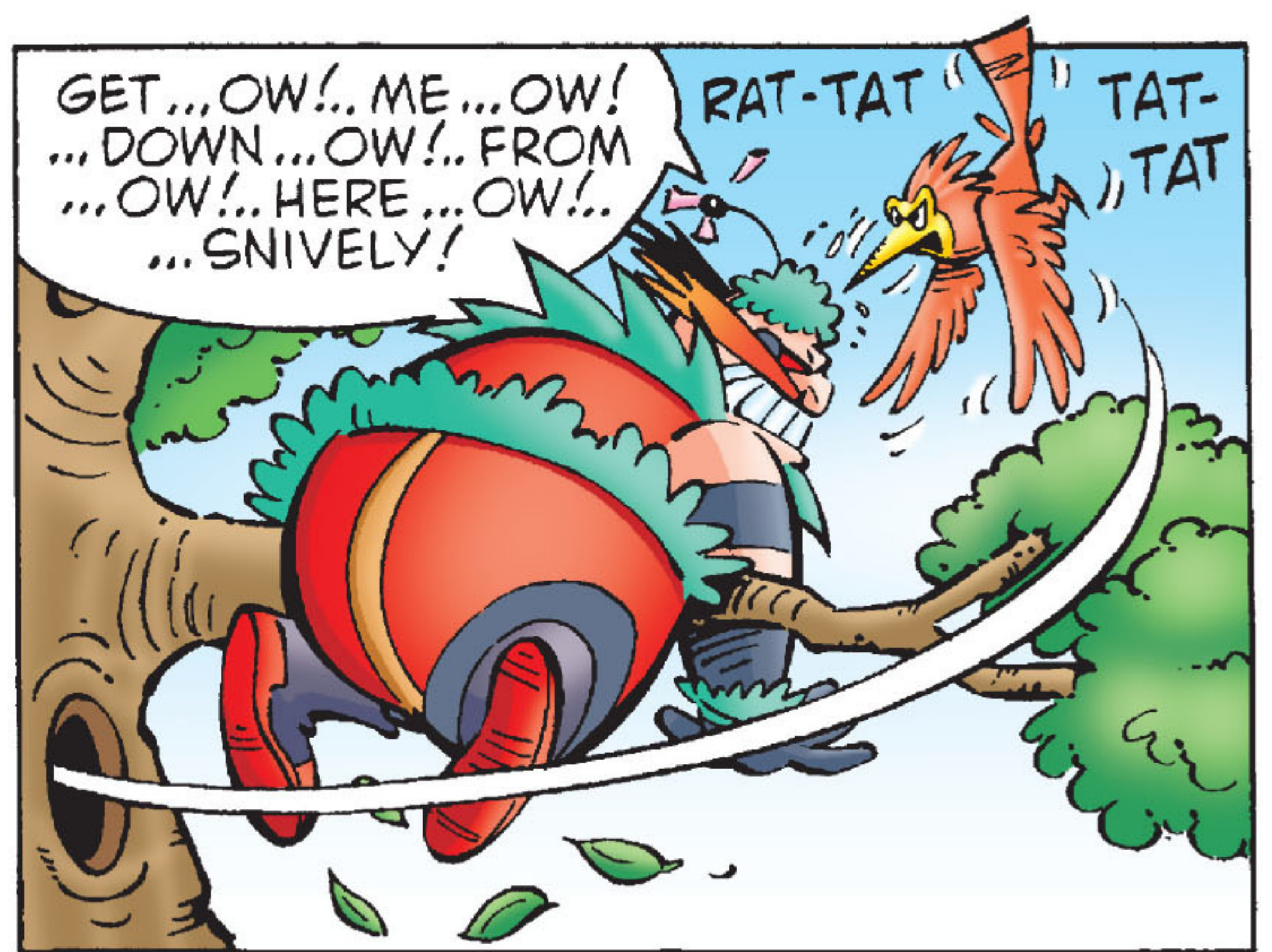
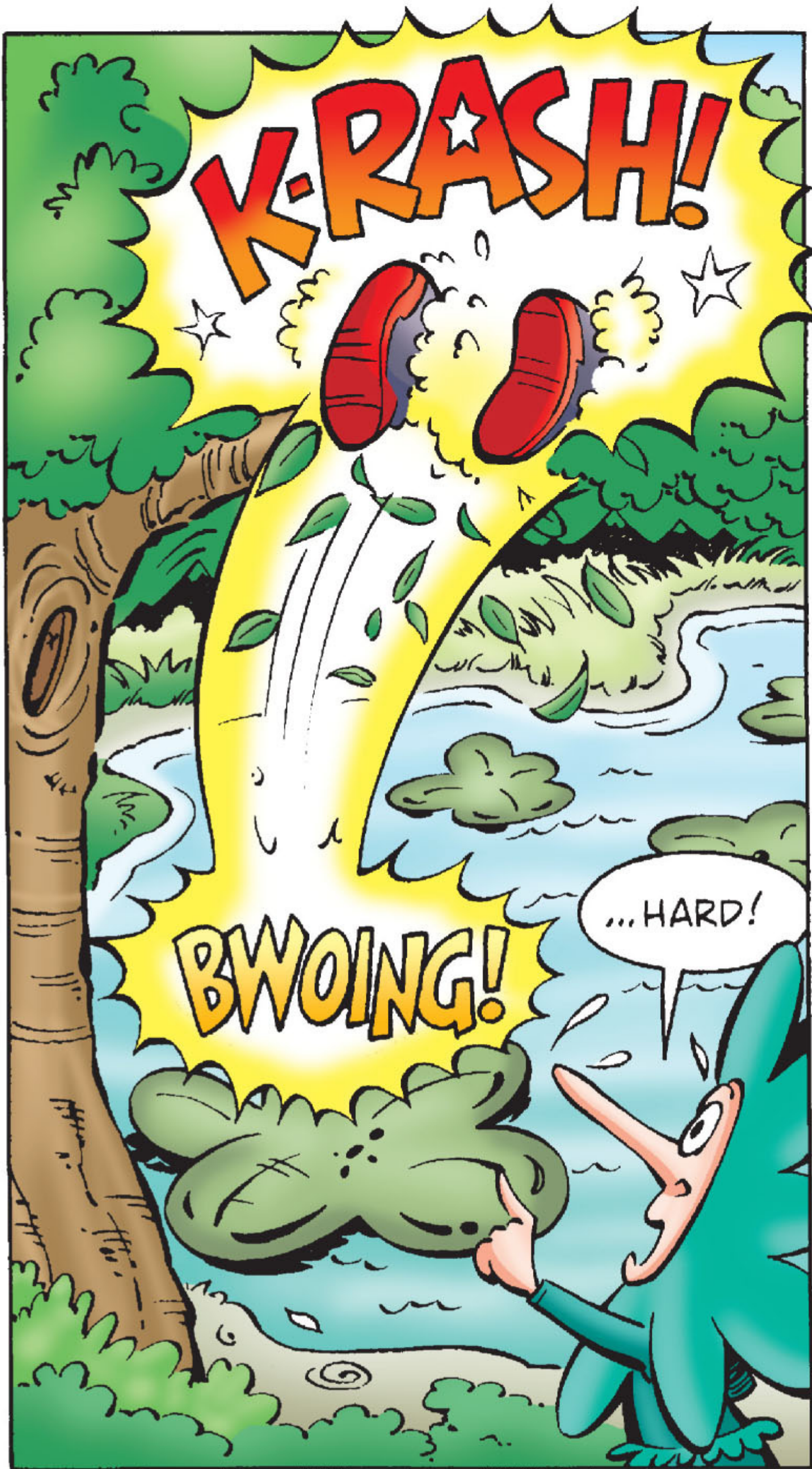
PERHAPS WE SHOULD GO AROUND THE WEEDS, SIR! THEY'RE RATHER TALL!

NONSENSE! WE'LL DASH RIGHT THROUGH THEM!

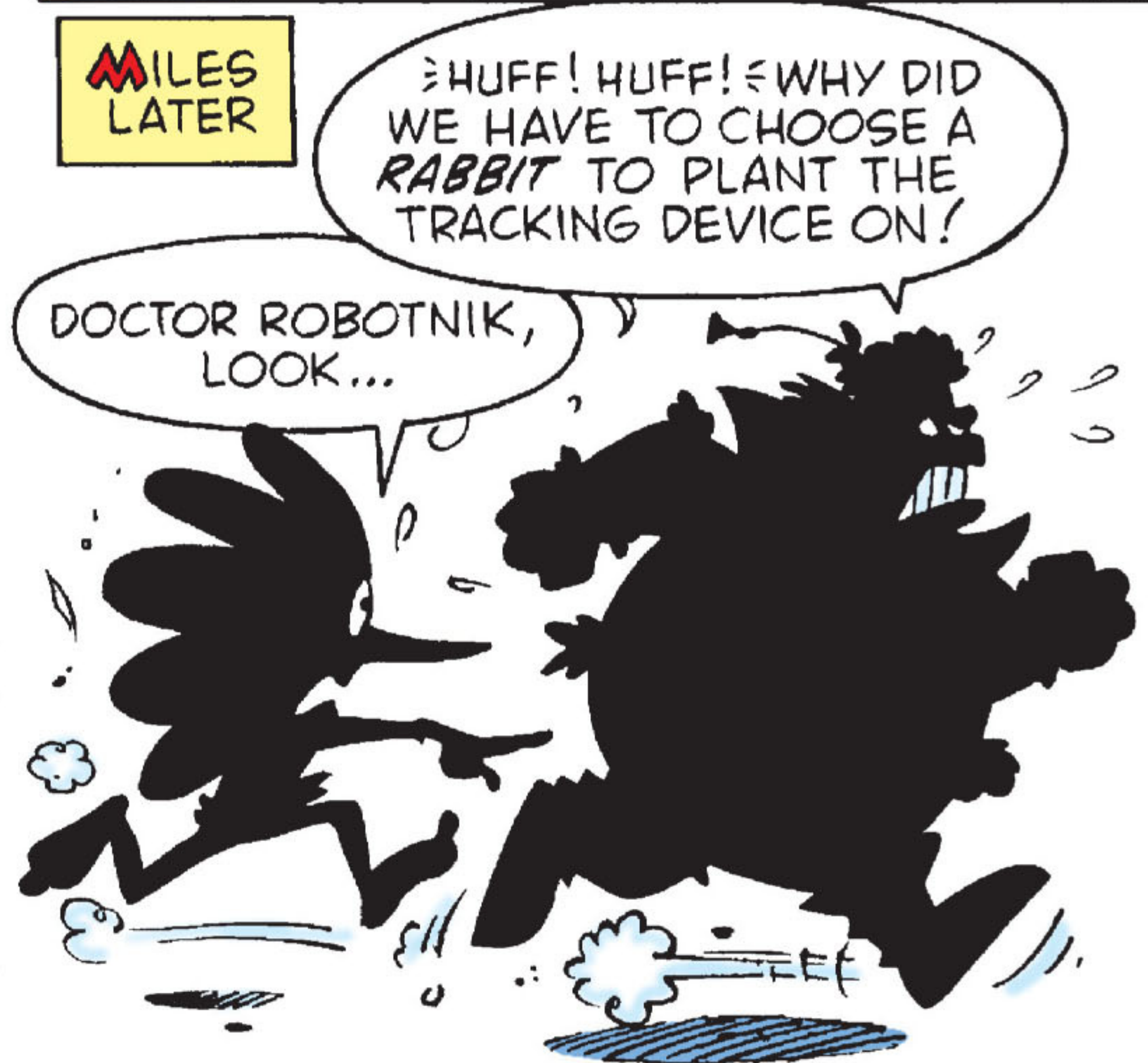


FOLLOW ME!



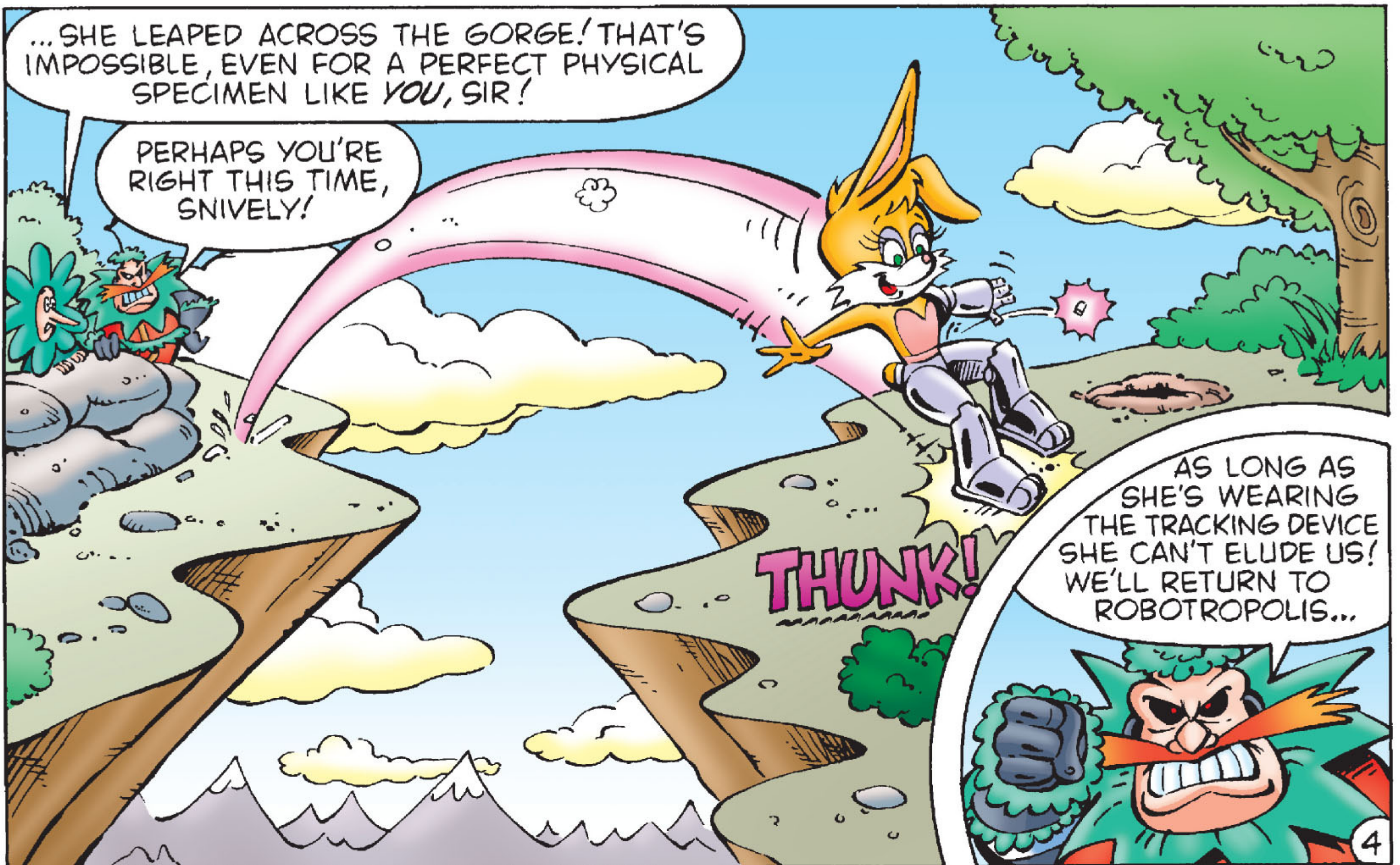


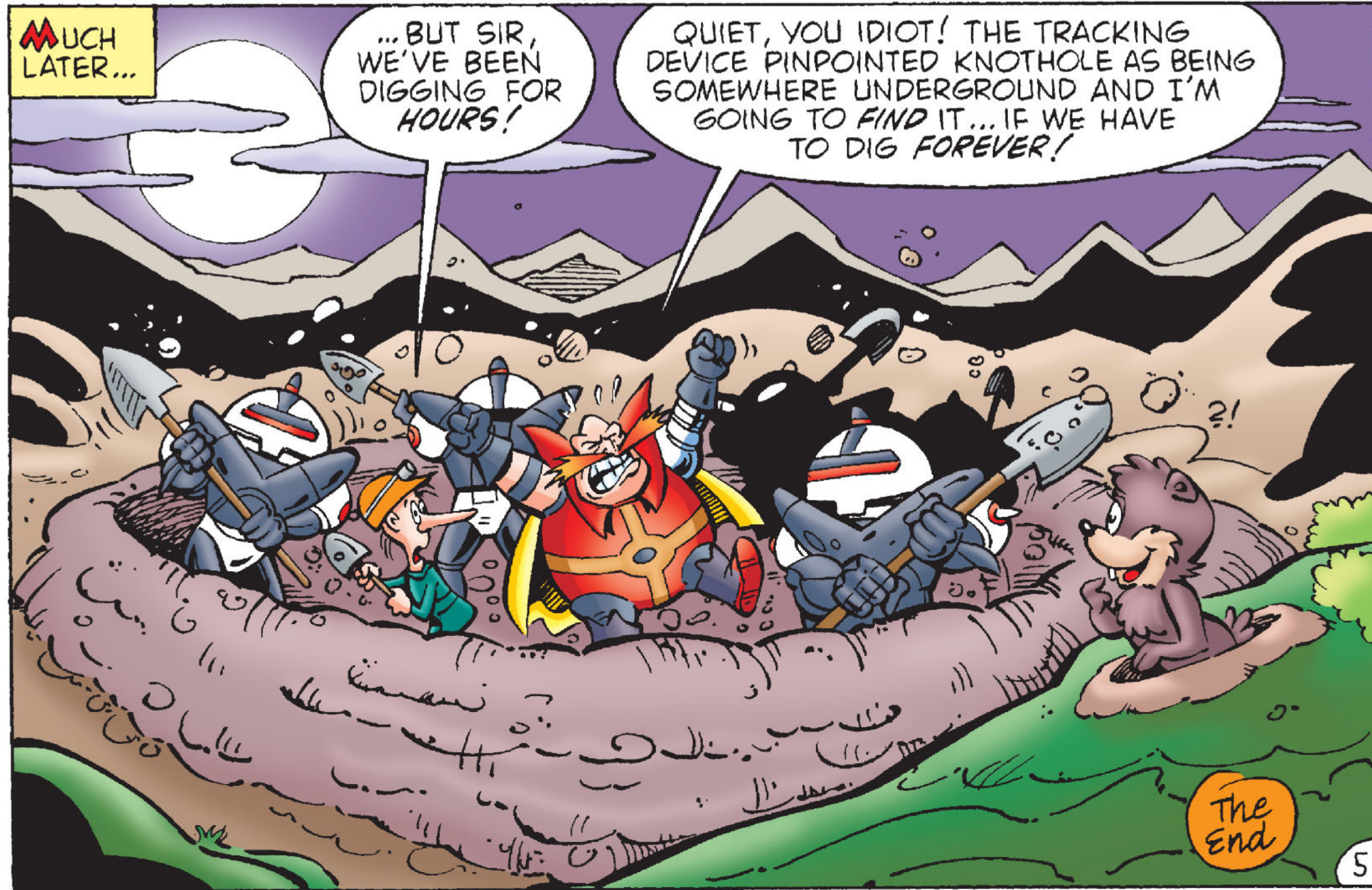
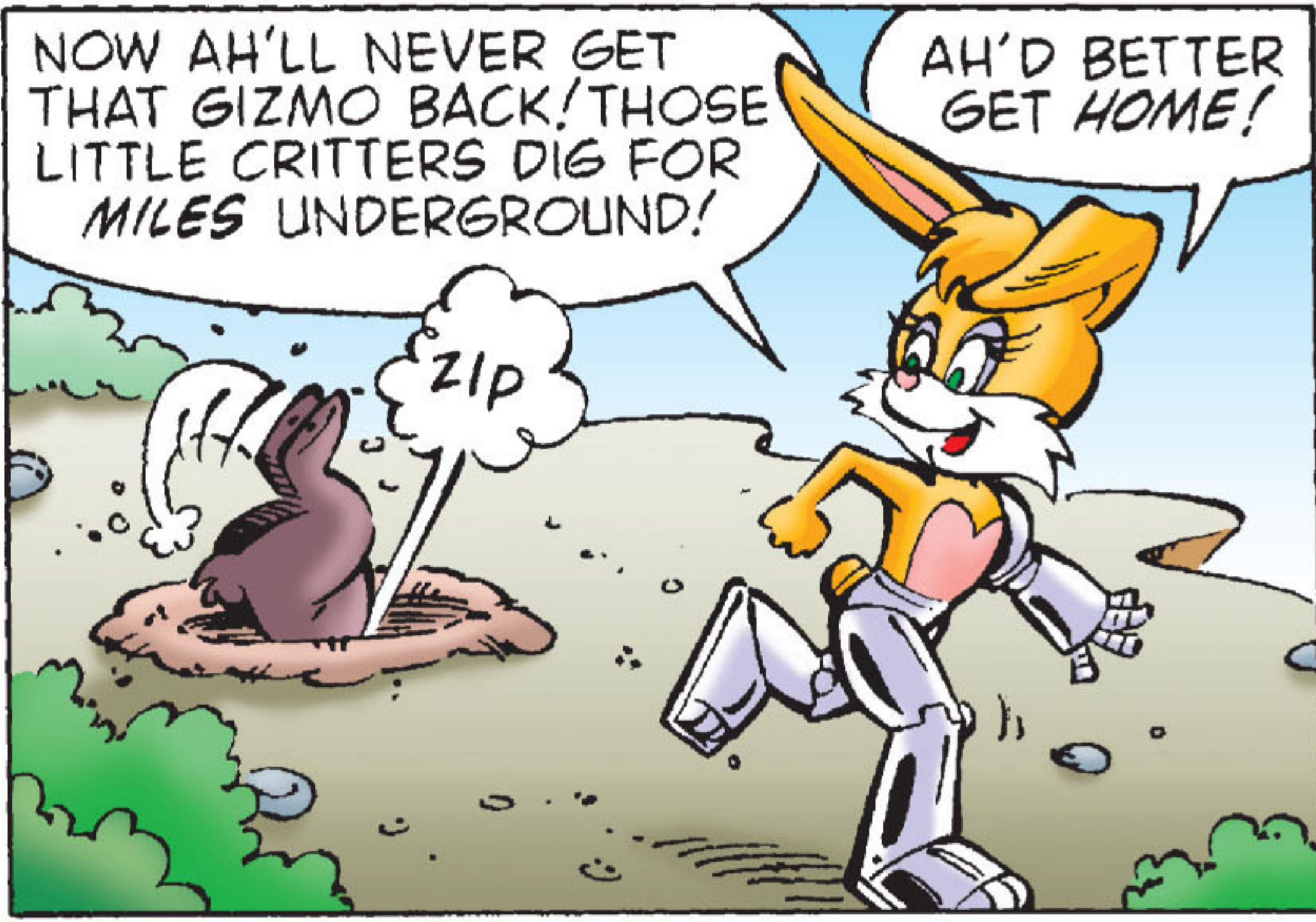
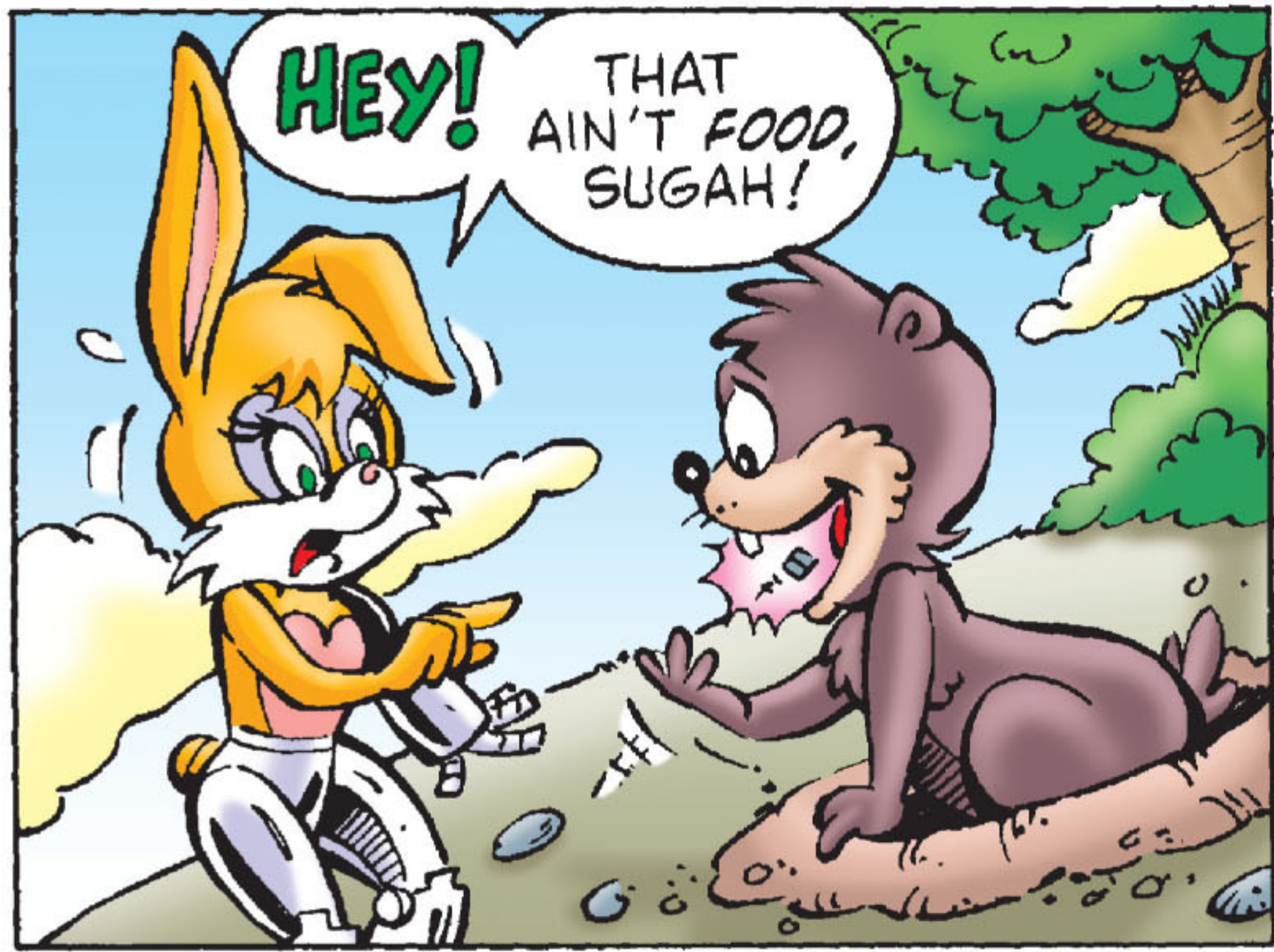
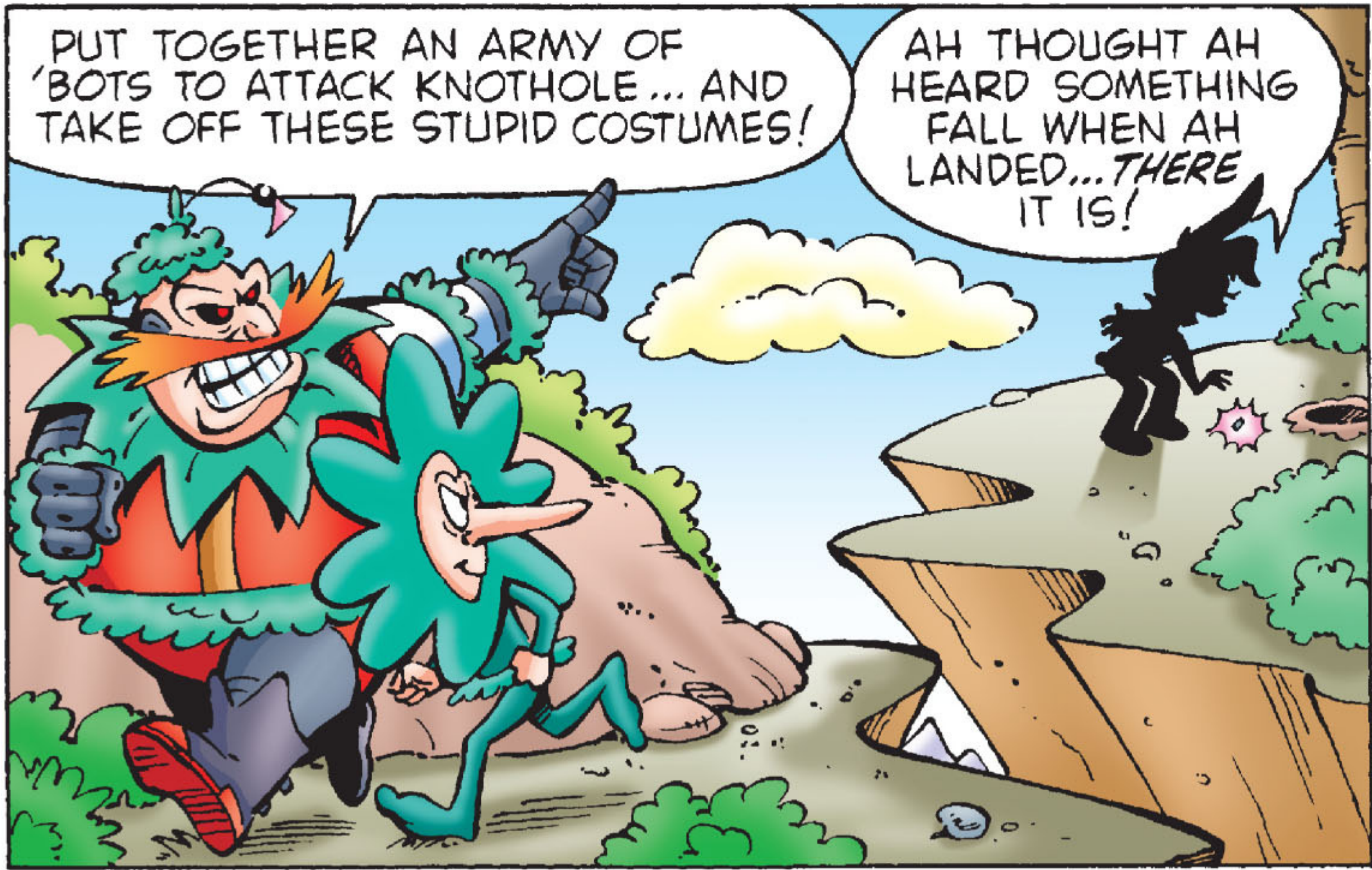
**MILES
LATER**



...SHE LEAPED ACROSS THE GORGE! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, EVEN FOR A PERFECT PHYSICAL SPECIMEN LIKE YOU, SIR!

PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT THIS TIME, SNIVELY!





Sonic Select Book Three

This third installment of the acclaimed SONIC SELECT series brings us more of the best tales from the Sonic Super Specials. It's a massive melee as the Freedom Fighters throw down with the Chaotix for the Sword of Acorns! What mysterious force has turned these friends into foes? And what unspeakable evil stands to benefit?



SONIC SELECT is a premium selection of past Sonic comic book stories. Choosing from the many miniseries and double-length specials, you can now relive all of the Blue Blur's exciting history!

Sonic and his buds face impossible odds in the post-Robotnik "Brave New World," braving civil war and the rescue of King Acorn from the vile wizard Ixis Naugus! All these stories and more await you in the latest, great volume of Sonic Selects!

\$11.95^{US} / \$12.95^{CAN}
Suitable for ALL AGES